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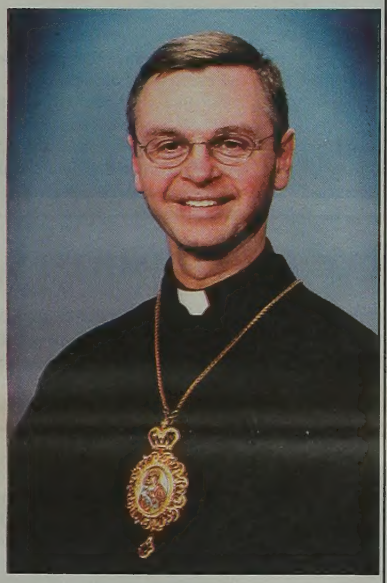
Bishop David named Eparch of Edmonton

By Marco Levytsky
With Files from the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg

His Holiness Benedict XVI on Jan. 25 named Most Rev, David Motiuk, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archeparchy of Winnipeg, as Bishop of the Eparchy of Edmonton.

"I am grateful to the Holy Father and the Sy-nod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church for the confidence instilled in me in appointing me as the fifth Bishop of the Eparchy of Edmonton," said Bishop David upon hearing the announcement, "and I look forward to serving the Ukrainian Catholic faithful in Alberta."



Most Rev, Bishop David Motiuk

The installation of Bishop David is scheduled to take place at 10:00 am on Saturday, March 24, at St. Basil the Great Ukrainian Catholic Church, by His Grace Lawrence Huculak, OSBM, Metropolitan-Archbishop of Winnipeg, in the presence of His Grace, Archbishop Luigi Ventura, Apostolic Nuncio to Canada.

"For the past five years, I have been privileged to journey spiritually with the faithful of the Archeparchy of Winnipeg as an auxiliary bishop. During this time, I have been impressed by the laity's strong faith in God and dedication to the mission of the Church. I have delighted in the close collaboration and friendship of the clergy and religious. I am particularly grateful to His Grace, Metropolitan Michael Bzdel, CsSR, and His Grace, Metropolitan Lawrence Huculak, OSBM, for their mentorship and support. I love them all!"

Speaking in a later telephone interview with Ukrainian News, Bishop David repeated these sentiments and, responding to a question, said that one way to address the decline in church membership is "to recognize the great treasure that we have ...of the Kyivan tradition."

That means Ukrainian Catholics themselves have to learn more about what that means, how to celebrate it and "what makes it special to us a special treasure."

At the same time we have to be open to the many other Canadians who are searching for God, but not necessarily in the context of the structured church.

"The great treasure that we have

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PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Premier Ed Stelmach with his wife Marie and participating clergy, members of the Knights of Columbus Bishop Neil Savaryn Council #13361, Children of Mary and Altar Boys at the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Parish, Jan. 28.

Stelmach stresses importance of heritage at Holy Cross

(UkrNews)—Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach stressed the importance of his Ukrainian heritage at a special blessing and subsequent breakfast held in his honour at the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Edmonton, Jan. 28.

"Marie and I are simply humbled and honoured by your presence here today," he stated.

"Our heritage, our church, our religion means certainly a lot to both of us," Premier Stelmach added.

During the Divine Liturgy, Premier Stelmach and his wife Marie were blessed by Father Bill Hupalo, Administrator for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy and Father Don Bodnar, Parish Priest. This blessing reflects spiritual and community support for the Premier and his family as he takes on the responsibilities of leadership for the Province of Alberta.

"It's very significant to both Marie and I and, of course the number of people who have gathered here to not only celebrate the Liturgy, but to offer their sincere best wishes and this is all part of the heritage and, of course I'm very proud of it and it just goes in keeping that Sundays are best to get together at functions like this and just renew family ties," he told reporters after the ceremony.

Asked whether he would visit other parishes in the future, Premier Stelmach, who represents the constituency of Fort Saskatchewa-Vegreville, replied:

"There are so many invites coming forward and we'll be visiting other parishes in different parts of the province of Alberta and of course I'm looking forward to the installation of our new bishop in March, Bishop David Motiuk, who originally was born and raised very close to Vegreville, in Lavoy."

During the breakfast/brunch, hosted by the Knights of Columbus Bishop Neil Savaryn Council #13361, Premier Stelmach paid tribute to the Ukrainian pioneers who settled in Alberta starting in the late 1800s.

"It was a very strong faith in God that allowed them to break ground in this province and to build this province to what it is today," he said.

Noting that during his swearing in ceremony the skies were cold, but clear, Premier Stelmach added "I suggest to you that is not only my grandparents, but all of ours of Ukrainian heritage (were) looking down on all of us that day and just extending to all of us their sincere best wishes and hope to continue to build this province as they did in the past."

He also spoke about the pressures of leadership today in Alberta, with its rapid growth, adding "I'm going to

Cont. on P. 9

Обстріляли машину депутатки Тимошенко

(Українська правда)—У понеділок, 5 лютого, невідомі обстріляли автомобіль члена фракції БЮТ, голови Київської обласної організації партії "Батьківщина" Уляни Мостіпан.

Автомобіль, припаркований на стоянці, було обстріляно з гарпунної зброї, повідомляє прес-служба БЮТ.

"Свідченням цього є гарпунна стріла, яка залишилася в пробитому радіаторі", - сказано у повідомленні.

Як зазначає прес-служба, скориставшись відсутністю водія та охорони стоянки, зловмисники "для певності" пробили гострим предметом радіатор ще в кількох місцях. Того ж дня невідомі особи намагалися проникнути до помешкання дочки Мостіпан за допомогою відмички.

"Коли це не вдалося, невідомі залишили послання, написане крейдою, зміст якого зводився до одного: дати зрозуміти Уляні Мостіпан, що все, що відбувається навколо неї, - досить серйозно", - йдеться у повідомленні.

У прес-службі також зазначають, що погрози на адресу Мостіпан "аж до знищення" надходили вже давно.

"Для нас зрозуміло, що на народного депутата України, яка, до того ж, очолює нашу обласну партійну організацію, розпочалося полювання з метою залякування", - вважають у БЮТ.

Там пов'язують інцидент з тим, що Мостіпан "для певних кіл становить велику загрозу, бо стоїть на перешкоді дерибану землі Київської області".

"Ми усвідомлюємо, що Уляну Мостіпан "замовили". Тому висловлюємо рішучий протест проти подібних дій з боку замовників як до Уляни Мостіпан, так і до членів її родини. Подібні діяння носять всі ознаки кримінального злочину, тож їх організатори мусять бути покараними, згідно з чинним законодавством", - йдеться у повідомленні.

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Любов до Януковича тане, як сніг на сонці

(Українська правда/Інтерфакс-Україна)—Усе більше українців не довіряють жодній політичній силі і втрачають довіру до уряду на чолі з прем'єром Віктором Януковичем.

Про це свідчать дані соціологічного опитування, проведеного компанією "ФОМ-Україна".

За словами генерального директора компанії Олександра Бухалова, 30% опитаних, відповідаючи на питання про те, до якої політичної сили в них найбільше довіри, зазначили, що не довіряють жодному з політиків. Разом з тим, такої точки зору дотримувалися в грудні 24% респондентів.

Також, за словами Бухалова, знизився і відсоток довіри до прем'єра Віктора Януковича.

У грудні минулого року йому довіряли 26% респондентів, у січні - 24%. Знизився також рівень довіри і до парламентської коаліції (з 8% до 6 % за аналогічний період), і до опозиції - з 18% до 14%. Також збільшилося число тих, хто б проголосував проти всіх на президентських виборах. У серпні ця цифра складала 6%, у січні - 11%.

"Спостерігаємо політичну апатію і втрату інтересу до цих подій", - підкреслив Бухалов. Також, за словами гендиректора компанії, знижується число тих, хто хотів би бачити чинного прем'єра на посаді президента (з 35% до 25%).

Крім того, за його словами, росте число людей, які не схвалюють дії Януковича на посаді прем'єра - з серпня до січня ця цифра збільшилася з 37% до 47%.

Разом з тим, зменшилася кількість людей, які схвалюють дії Януковича - з 43% до 40%.

Можливим фактором такого падіння рівня схвалення Бухалов назвав підвищення тарифів на житлово-комунальні послуги.

Однак, як підкреслив гендиректор компанії, прем'єр залишається тим політиком, який має, на думку респондентів, найбільший вплив.

72% опитаних українців також вважають, що між Януковичем і президентом існує конфлікт, але усунути його дострокові парламентські вибори не зможуть (46 % проти 16%).

Також опитування показало політичну апатію українців у контексті ухвалених Верховною Радою законів.

Так, зокрема, 43% опитаних українців відповіли, що вони нічого не знають про закон про Кабінет міністрів, а число тих, які схвалюють і не схвалюють, розділилося приблизно нарівно (21% і 20% відповідно).

Про закон про імперативний мандат нічого не знають більше 50% респондентів, 47% нічого не відомо про закон про опозицію. "Швидше за все, вони не хочуть знати", - сказав Бухалов.

Опитування проводилося з 18 по 28 січня в 160 населених пунктах України. В опитуванні взяли участь 2 тисячі респондентів віком від 18 років. Похибка вибірки складає близько 2%.

Коаліція може підтримати Огризка

(Українська правда)—Координатор парламентської більшості Раїса Богатирьова заявляє, що більшість членів коаліції готова підтримати кандидатуру Володимира Огризка на посаду міністра закордонних справ.

Про це повідомила 5 лютого речник фракції Партії регіонів Людмила Харів із посиланням на Богатирьову, передає УНІАН.

"Але, що природно, дискусії навколо цієї кандидатури ще не завершено. Принципово важливо, аби відбулися відповідні консультації між прем'єром і президентом, і привели саме на цьому рівні до консенсусу", - сказала Богатирьова.

Вона підкреслила, що президент скористався своїм конституційним правом на висування своєї кандидатури на посаду керівника зовнішньополітичного відомства.

"Разом з тим, я вважаю, що парламентсько-урядова коаліція повинна бути впевнена, що зовнішньополітична діяльність нового міністра закордонних справ не буде суперечити баченню зовнішньої політики коаліції", - додала вона.

Богатирьова назвала Огризка одним із кращих професіоналів у зовнішній політиці.

"І важливо, щоб принцип дипломатичної толерантності, відстороненості від політизації цього відповідального і тонкого інструменту політики держави стала традиційною повинністю кандидата на цю вкрай важливу для забезпечення зовнішньополітичних пріоритетів посаду", - сказала вона.

"Головне – Україна. І, звичайно, Огризко має обов'язково засвоїти належний урок у свого вчорашнього шефа Тарасюка", - впевнена Богатирьова.

Звільнено суддю, який заборонив Морозу підписувати закон про кабмін

(Українська правда)—Вища рада юстиції звільнила з посади суддю Мукачівського районного суду Володимира Монича, який заборонив голові Верховної Ради Олександрові Морозу підписувати до оприлюднення закон про Кабінет міністрів.

Про це 7 лютого повідомляє 5 канал. Офіційною мотивацією звільнення є несумісна професійна поведінка.

Раніше 22 січня суддя Мукачівського міськрайонного суду, розглянувши матеріали позовної заяви депутата-"нашоукраїнця" Ігоря Кріля, виніс ухвалу про заборону на здійснення будь-яких дій із законом про Кабмін.

На підставі цього у секретаріаті президента заявляли, що спікеру Морозу загрожує кримінальна відповідальність за підписання закону.

Попри рішення судді, закон про Кабмін минулого тижня був опублікований.

Президент Віктор Ющенко оскаржує закон в Конституційному Суді.

"Нашій Україні" наказали триматись спідниці Юлії Володимирівни

(Українська правда)—Голова секретаріату президента і лідер "Нашої України" Віктор Балога заперечує будь-які розбіжності в партії щодо співпраці з БЮТ.

Про це він заявив на брифінгу 7 лютого.

"Хочу сказати, що нема ніяких розбіжностей. Як і в будь-якій силі, у нас кожен має право на свою позицію і вона має право на повагу. Але позиція-позицією, а зустріч, яка відбулась з фракцією підтверджує єдність і те, що ми повинні бути з Юлією Володимирівною в парламенті – це та послідовність, про яку було сказано на з'їзді партії", - зазначив Балога.

"У цьому нічого страшного немає. Ви знаєте, що в минулому році всі члени нашої партії вийшли з уряду. На з'їзді було заявлено про опозиційність, а потім розрив на три місяці...То куди мала йти партія? В опозицію із соціалістами, які мають позицію кожен виборчий цикл, чи з комуністами?", - запитав він.

"Само собою, "Наша Україна" мала приєднатися до Юлії Володимирівни і разом представляти опозиційні сили в парламенті", - наголосив Балога.

Як відомо, 5 лютого було підписано заяву про спільну опозиційну діяльність БЮТ і "Нашої України". Але деякі "нашоукраїнці" висловили обурення цим кроком.

Kennedy to seek Liberal nomination in Parkdale High Park

(UkrNews)—Former Liberal leadership candidate Gerard Kennedy on Feb. 6 announced he will seek the Liberal nomination in the Toronto federal riding of Parkdale-High Park.

Kennedy, who is of Ukrainian origin, represented the same riding on the provincial level between 1999 and 2006, when he resigned in order to run for the federal leadership.

He made his announcement with former MP Sarmite Bulte, who said she will step aside in favour of Kennedy.

"After consultation with my family and riding executive, I have decided not to run in the riding of Parkdale-High Park," said Bulte "I believe Gerard is the best standard bearer for us in the next election and someone who will represent this community strongly in Parliament."

"This is a riding of real communities and very committed people that want to see Canada move forward. It is the area I feel most connected to and where I believe I can help our party gain a seat for a future Liberal government," said Kennedy. "I am grateful for Sam's support but I take nothing for granted. I will be canvassing door-to-door immediately, asking for support for my nomination and then for the election, whenever that may come."

PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Kennedy at the December, 2006 leadership convention.

The riding, which has a large Ukrainian Canadian population and contains Bloor West Village, the site of North America's largest Ukrainian festival, is currently represented by NDP MP Peggy Nash.

It has been represented by many Ukrainian Canadian MPs in the past including Andrew Witer (PC, 1984-1988), Yuri Shymko (PC, 1979-1980), Walter Deacon (Lib. 1968-1972) and John Kucherepa (PC, 1957-1962).

Kennedy ran for the Liberal leadership last year and placed fourth on the second ballot, after which he dropped out in favour of Stephane Dion.

Kennedy's switch to Dion proved to be the critical factor in the race as Dion jumped from third to first place in the third ballot and won on the fourth.

Kennedy had considerable support from the Ukrainian community during the leadership race and a Ukrainian bloc supporting him numbered about 70 delegates at the third ballot.

The Ukrainian Canadian bloc, led by MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj, who represents the neighbouring riding of Etobicoke Centre, also went to Dion on the third ballot, but did so independently after holding a free vote among the delegates.

Kennedy is currently serving as a special advisor to Dion.

Bishop David named to Eparchy of Edmonton

Cont. from P. 1

is something that can be offered to so many who are searching for meaning within their own lives and those around them."

Speaking of relations with the Mother Church in Ukraine, Bishop David said "we are finding the commonality that binds us together as one church, but we are also experiencing and reflecting upon the difference of how the Ukrainian Catholic Church continues to find its home and its expression within Canada, especially having the history of some 100 years now."

Bishop David was born on Jan. 13, 1962 in Vegreville and was ordained to the priesthood on Aug. 21, 1988 for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton. He served in several parishes in Alberta following his ordination and was associate rector of the Cathedral of St. Josaphat in Edmonton. He looks forward to returning home.

"That's the bonus. So many people have welcomed me back home or made that reference... those who are called to serve in the church are called to serve where ever there is the greatest need, but in all honesty I'm just delighted that it's back in Alberta, back in Edmonton close to familiar territory, family and friends."

Bishop David added that he can't assume that things will be the same as he left them.

"The greatest challenge that I give to myself is to take the time to reacquaint myself with the life of our church in the Eparchy in Edmonton."

After serving earlier in the Eparchy of Edmonton, Bishop David completed a licentiate in canon law at Saint Paul University in Ottawa and obtained a doctorate in canon law from the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome. He was Rector of Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Ottawa from 1996 to 2001. On June 11, 2002 in Edmonton, Bishop David was ordained as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archeparchy of Winnipeg and Titular Bishop of Mathara in Numidia.

"As I begin a new chapter in my life, I look forward to the challenge of shepherding the Church. Yet, I do so with some trepidation. You see, as an auxiliary bishop in Winnipeg, the final decision concerning a given matter did not rest with me, but rather with the Metropolitan Michael, and more recently with Metropolitan Lawrence. Things will be different in Edmonton. Yet, I am confident that the advice of the gifted clergy, religious and laity will guide me in my new role," he said in the Jan. 25 statement.

"I look forward with great joy to the spiritual re-awakening that is taking place all around us. It's an exciting time to be alive!"

Bishop David has published several journal articles and authored the book, *Eastern Christians in the New World: An Historical and Canonical Study of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada*, published by the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies and the Faculty of Canon Law at Saint Paul University, Ottawa in 2005. He has also been a member of the senate of Newman Theological College in Edmonton, and a consultor with the Episcopal Commission for Canon Law/Inter-Rite of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Currently, he is a consultor with the Episcopal Commission for Theology.

The Eparchy of Edmonton has a Ukrainian Catholic population of 28,750, 87 parishes and missions, 39 diocesan and religious priests, 4 deacons, and 30 women religious.

Russian journalist seeks asylum

(RFE/RL)—Journalist Aleksandr Kosvintsev of the Russian newspaper "Novaya gazeta" has asked for political asylum in Ukraine, Interfax-Ukraine reported on Feb. 6, citing to the press service of the Lviv Oblast Council.

Kosvintsev claims that he has been persecuted by Russian law enforcement bodies after conducting a journalistic investigation into "criminal activities" by Kemerovo Oblast Governor Aman Tuleyev.

"After reading his articles in the Russian press, it is becoming clear that the corrupt Russian authorities have decided to punish the independent journalist.

We know the real state of the free press in Russia, and that is why we are ready to help the Russian journalist," Lviv Oblast Council Chairman Myroslav Senyk commented on Kosvintsev's application for political asylum.

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У керівництві МВС України масові кадрові зміни

Світлана Дорош, *Бі-Бі-Сі, Київ*

Керівництво міністерства внутрішніх справ України оголосило про намір усунути з посад низку начальників обласних управлінь міліції.

Офіційна причина - через недоліки у роботі та рішучий намір реформувати українську міліцію.

Однак, опоненти нинішнього уряду кажуть про те, що головною метою кадрових чисток є усунення з посад тих офіцерів, котрі були призначені на посади за часів "помаранчевого" уряду і керівництва міліцією Юрієм Луценком.

Екс-міністр внутрішніх справ Юрій Луценко неодноразово заявляв, що під кадрові чистки після приходу його наступника Василя Цушка потрапить понад 300 керівників різного рівня як у МВС, так і у регіональних управліннях.

Новий міністр Василь Цушко ці твердження одразу ж спростував. Однак, на останній колегії МВС, що пройшла у закритому режимі, пролунала пропозиція звільнитися із посад усім керівникам обласних управлінь внутрішніх справ. Принаймні, так слова міністра передали неофіційні джерела.

Наступного дня після колегії перший заступник міністра внутрішніх справ Михайло Корнієнко, фактично, підтвердив ці вимоги нового керівництва МВС до своїх підлеглих, однак скільки начальників УВС буде звільнено чи переведено на іншу роботу, не сказав.

"Зараз почато реформування МВС. Затверджується нова структура - згори донизу. Безумовно, є питання до деяких керівників регіональних органів внутрішніх справ. Тому зміни безумовно будуть", - сказав Михайло Корнієнко.

Після призначення нового міністра Василя Цушка витік інформації про кадрові чистки ставався завдяки тим таки керівникам обласних управлінь міліції. Так, зокрема, керівник УВС у Запорізькій області Віктор Ольховський заявляв газеті "Коммерсант", що антикризова коаліція прагне розподілити посади в МВС за партійними квотами.

Журналіст і експерт з питань діяльності правоохоронних органів Юрій Бутусов, посилаючись на власні джерела в МВС, в інтерв'ю Бі-Бі-Сі сказав, що антикризова коаліція справді прагне усунути чужих своїй політичній силі керівників міліції. Однак, експерт наголошує, що такий стиль керівництва спостерігався за часів кожного міністра внутрішніх справ.

"Сто відсотків, що антикризова коаліція хоче поставити своїх людей. Сто відсотків, що у Віктора Януковича і його команди є свої інтереси щодо розстановки кадрів. І є дійсно певна політична квота на призначення значної кількості керівників департаментів, підрозділів. Але заради об'єктивності слід відзначити, що така система формування органів внутрішніх справ спостерігається не лише зараз. Це мало місце при кожному міністрі внутрішніх справ", - твердить Юрій Бутусов.

Нове керівництво МВС, кажучи про доцільність заміни міліцейських керівників у регіонах, посилається на проведені внутрішні опитування особистого складу міліції. Однак ті, кого очікує звільнення, кажуть, що результати таких опитувань можна сфальсифікувати.

Тим часом, результати останніх опитувань громадської думки можуть бути лише зайвим підтвердженням тому, що планована кадрова революція в МВС мало цікавитиме пересічних громадян. Оскільки вони називають правоохоронні органи серед найбільш корумпованих відомств. Центр соціальних експертиз Інституту соціології вказує, що індекс поширеності хабарництва у правоохоронних органах є одним із найвищих в Україні.

Оглядач Юрій Бутусов наголошує, що діяльність міністерства внутрішніх справ передбачає багато можливостей для фінансового збагачення як самого відомства, так і конкретних людей.

"Міністерство внутрішніх справ - це таке собі прибуткове підприємство. Надходження від діяльності підрозділів МВС — це сотні мільйонів гривень на рік. І ця система не керована державою і навіть не керована міністром внутрішніх справ, і ніколи не була керована - ще з часів СРСР. У нас кожне управління внутрішніх справ — це таке удільне князівство. Вони мають свої повноваження, свої методики заробляння грошей. І це головна проблема і головне джерело корупції у цій системі", - вважає оглядач Юрій Бутусов.

НАТО прописалося у Севастополі

Володимир Притула, *Радіо Свобода*

Симферополь, 6 лютого 2007 – Сьогодні представники Військово-Морських Сил України і Північноатлантичного альянсу проводять в Севастополі рекогносцировку у зв'язку з підготовкою командно-штабних навчань НАТО "Кооператив Мерлін-2007" Навчання "Кооператив Мерлін" мають пройти у Севастополі восени відповідно до Індивідуальної програми партнерства України і НАТО на 2007 р. Метою командно-штабних навчань на комп'ютерах стане підготовка українських військових моряків до роботи у складі багатонаціональних штабів. Зокрема, відпрацьовуватимуться питання проведення ембаргових операцій, евакуація цивільного населення, застосування протимінних, протичовнових і підводних сил та протидиверсійної оборони сил на морі. Тобто, серйозні навчання, але на комп'ютерах, без виходу на море. І цього разу офіцери оглядають місця проведення навчань, готують комп'ютерну базу, програмне забезпечення.

Командно-штабні навчання НАТО "Кооператив Мерлін" є видозміненим і поглибленим варіантом навчань "Кооператив Посейдон", які вперше проходили в Севастополі торік. Тоді у них брали участь військовослужбовці із 12-ти країн НАТО, представники ЗС 4-х країн-учасниць програми НАТО "Партнерство заради миру", а також 2-х країн Середземноморського діалогу (Алжир та Ізраїль). Як спостерігачі були присутні Катар та ОАЕ.

Цього разу інструктори будуть з низки країн НАТО, а навчатимуться переважно українські моряки. Хоча будуть представлені країни-учасниці програми "Партнерство в ім'я миру" (зокрема, Грузія), а також, очевидно країни Середземноморського діалогу. Важливо, що у навчаннях не братимуть участі підрозділи, тож окремого рішення Верховної Ради не треба.

Трійка Євросоюзу у Києві

Богдана Костюк, *Радіо Свобода*

Київ, 6 лютого 2007 – Сьогодні у Києві проходитиме зустріч «Трійка ЄС – Україна». «Експертну збірну» Євросоюзу очолює міністр закордонних справ Німеччини Франк-Вальтер Штайнмайєр.

Попередню інформацію про нинішній візит оприлюднили чільники Міністерства закордонних справ України. Речник Андрій Дещиця: «Особливу увагу планується приділити питанню підготовки до початку переговорів щодо нового рамкового договору між Україною та ЄС, включаючи також запровадження зони вільної торгівлі».

Анатолій Зленко, колишній міністр закордонних справ, один із розробників нинішнього договору про партнерство та співробітництво між Києвом і Брюсселем, вважає себе єврооптимістом. Пояснює: «Якщо майбутнє співробітництво, яке має визначати ця нова угода, має базуватись на політичній асоціації, з одного боку, а з другого – на економічній інтеграції, а з третього боку— визначати перспективи України щодо ЄС, тоді я буду надзвичайно задоволений. А якщо процес буде і затягуватись, з одного боку, а з другого – не будуть вкладатись у зміст цієї угоди саме ці важливі елементи, тоді оберти наші, як кажуть, ідуть намарне».

Натомість політолог Петро Бурковський називає себе євро-скептиком: «Від візиту нема чого очікувати чогось нового – швидше за все, європейці ще раз підкреслять, що боротьба за владу в Україні не сприяє розвитку стосунків з Євросоюзом. Що стосується нової посиленої угоди, про яку йтиме мова, то я думаю, що головним козирем ЄС буде пропозиція Україні створити зону вільної торгівлі між Україною та ЄС, після входження України до СОТ».

Але всі представники України – і її урядовці, і незалежні експерти – переконані, що нині і Київ, і Брюссель повинні зробити перший крок на довгому і складному шляху під назвою "Підготовка посиленої угоди між Україною та Євросоюзом".

Ющенко пропонує головою СБУ товариша Порошенка

(Українська правда)—Президент Віктор Ющенко вніс до Верховної Ради подання про призначення Віктора Короля головою Служби безпеки України.

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Коментуючи подання президента, лідер БЮТ Юлія Тимошенко зазначила: "Ми збираємося дружити з "Нашою Україною", тому коментувати такі речі - неконструктивна справа".

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Rada bans sale of pipeline

By Vladimir Socor

(Jamestown Foundation)—Russian President Vladimir Putin's Feb. 1 call to "unite" Ukraine' gas transit system with that of Russia has strongly backfired. In Kyiv, opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko initiated and the Verkhovna Rada adopted almost unanimously on Feb. 6 a law banning any form of alienation of Ukraine's pipelines and other assets of the national company Naftohaz Ukrainy.

Putin had stated in his annual news conference that Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and the government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych favored sharing control of Ukraine's transit pipelines through a consortium or similar deal with Russia, in return for Ukrainian "access" to oil and gas extraction projects on Russian territory. Presenting this idea as a Ukrainian proposal, Putin disclosed that it would figure on the agenda of Yushchenko's upcoming visit to Russia. Putin omitted to say that one extractive project under consideration for this deal, in Russia's Astrakhan oblast, has Dmytro Firtash as its main owner. Firtash fronts as the main shareholder in the purportedly Ukrainian half of Gazprom's offshoot RosUkrEnergo.

Putin's apparently calculated bean-spilling proved premature and forced Kyiv's proponents of this deal on the defensive politically. The Tymoshenko-initiated bill garnered 430 votes, with none opposed, in the 450-seat Rada.

The law bans any deals that would involve the sale, transfer, merger, joint venture, concession, lease, putting up as collateral, joint, or trust management, mortgaging, and any change in the status of ownership or control of Ukraine's gas transport system and other Naftohaz assets. It also stipulates that Naftohaz may not be declared bankrupt. The law would only allow transfer of Naftohaz assets hypothetically to an entity that would be 100% state-owned.

Government members who apparently have been conducting talks on the issue with Russia seek to relativize the new law's significance. First Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mykola Azarov, Deputy Prime Minister responsible for energy Andriy Kluyev, and Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Boyko (all from the Party of Regions) cite existing legislation that bars "privatization" and "change of ownership" of Ukraine's gas transit system. Thus they seek to portray the new law as redundant. However, the new law is far more comprehensive and closes all possible avenues for alienating these national Ukrainian assets to Russia.

The government's pro-Russian elements are clearly aware of the new law's significance, as could be seen in Azarov's televised interview in Kyiv (in Russian throughout) angrily terming the law "stupid" and its rationale "a lie." In two separate interviews Azarov defended the proposed "gas transport consortium" and "joint management" of Ukraine's pipelines with Russia. More cautiously and ambiguously, Kluyev told the Rada before the vote that the government has "no plans at this time to turn the gas transport system over to Russia, to the European Union, to Belarus, or to anyone." Thanks to Putin's indiscretion and Tymoshenko's initiative, however, the political atmosphere made it impossible even for pro-Russian deputies to stop the passage of the law.

Yet ambiguities persist even among some pro-presidential groups and Yushchenko himself. Following Putin's statement, which had credited him with what Putin termed this "revolutionary" idea, Yushchenko confined himself to a brief comment calling for a cautious, go-slow approach. After the parliament's vote, Anatoliy Kinakh — chairman of the Rada's national security and defense committee and leader of the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, a component of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine — clearly hinted to the press that he favors "joint management" with Russia of Ukraine's gas transit system. Kinakh had taken this position also while serving as Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council during the December 2005-January 2006 gas crisis. This time around, he additionally suggests inviting unspecified "European countries" as well as Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, and Azerbaijan to the proposed Russia-Ukraine gas transport consortium.

The law comes none to soon, as bilateral discussions are ongoing about ways and forms of shared Russian-Ukrainian control over Ukraine's gas transit system. Putin and Yushchenko expect to meet in March in Russia, and an intergovernmental group is due to work out specific proposals in this regard. This law gives Ukraine breathing space to interest the European Union (not Germany in its national capacity) to become involved in the modernization of Ukraine's gas transit system in the EU's own interest.

Yanukovych criticizes pipeline law

(RFE/RL)—Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych has criticized as a "political game" a new law banning any handover of Ukraine's gas pipelines. The pro-Western opposition accused Yanukovych of intending to hand over Ukraine's gas pipelines to Russia. But Yanukovych said on Feb. 7 his government had never discussed the existing gas-transport system with Russia — only the possibility of building new pipelines.

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is currently seeking Expressions of Interest of those individuals who have a keen desire to become part of a new artistic leadership team.

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Please send your letters and Curriculum Vitae to O. Koshetz Choir Inc. Box 3891 Winnipeg, MB R2W 5H9 or armstrong.scott@shaw.ca by March 31, 2007, including your salary expectations. Upon a review of these expressions, further discussions will ensue with interested individuals.

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Yushchenko nominates new Foreign Minister

(RFE/RL)—Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has asked parliament to appoint Volodymyr Ohryzko as foreign minister, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported, Feb. 5.

Following the resignation of Borys Tarasyuk on Jan. 30, the cabinet endorsed First Deputy Foreign Minister Ohryzko as acting foreign minister.

As a first deputy foreign minister, Ohryzko has been a lead negotiator with Moscow on the issue of the stationing of Russia's Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol.

Ohryzko is an associate of Tarasyuk, and it is believed he will continue a pro-Western policy.

"There cannot be any changes in the foreign-policy sphere," Ohryzko told journalists in Kyiv Jan. 31.

When Tarasyuk resigned, he accused Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych of usurping power and returning to authoritarian methods of governance, the "Ukrayinska pravda" website reported.

"I refuse to make the Foreign Ministry a hostage to unlawful actions of the government. As a diplomat with 30 years of experience in diplomatic work, I cannot agree to outright abuses of the diplomatic service," Tarasyuk told journalists in Kyiv on Jan. 30.

Tarasyuk was dismissed from his post by the Verkhovna Rada on Dec. 1, 2006, but President Viktor Yushchenko ordered Tarasyuk to keep his job, arguing that his dismissal should have been preceded by a presidential motion. Yanukovych banned Tarasyuk from attending cabinet meetings following the dismissal vote. Under the Ukrainian Constitution, the foreign and defense ministers are nominated by the president and approved by parliament.

The constitution does not oblige lawmakers to seek the president's consent in dismissing these two ministers.

Yushchenko appeals farmland sale freeze

(RFE/RL)—President Viktor Yushchenko has appealed to Ukraine's Constitutional Court against a moratorium on the sale of farmland. The moratorium was due to expire at the end of last year, but parliament voted in December to extend it for another year to give lawmakers time to pass laws to better regulate the land market. Yushchenko vetoed the moratorium, arguing that it violated the constitution. But lawmakers earlier this month overrode the presidential veto.

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Editorial

CJC's futile vendetta blocks necessary reform

When Bernie Farber, Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Jewish Congress was asked by Marco Levytsky, Editor of Ukrainian News, why he persists in calling six aging Ukrainians, who have not been charged with any war crimes, let alone found guilty of any war crimes, "war criminals" at a news conference called to put pressure on the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to deport these individuals, he responded: "I would challenge you to look into my remarks to determine whether or not whether I actually called them war criminals. What we did call them was Nazi enablers and … that's what they are."

In actual fact, reporters attending the press conference held Jan. 30 in Ottawa, were presented with a press package leading off with a news release under the letterhead of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Friends of the Simon Weisenthal Center For Holocaust Studies headlined "Ethnic Canadian leaders frustrated by the continued presence of war criminals in Canada".

The lead paragraph stated: "A number of Canadian ethnic communities whose recent histories are marred by the horrors of genocide came together to decry Canada's continued role as a haven for those who have committed crimes against humanity, drawing particular attention to the cases of six men still living in this country although found to have acted as Nazi enablers by Canadian courts.

(As pointed out to Farber by Levytsky, who cited directly from two such court findings, these courts also explicitly exonerated them from any criminal acts.)

The six individuals are: Helmut Oberlander, Vladimir Katriuk, Wasyl Odynsky, Jacob Fast, Jura Skomatchuk and Josef Furman — four ethnic Ukrainians, two ethnic Germans — all from Ukraine.

This is not the first time Farber has played such semantic games, calling people war criminals in one breath, then insisting he didn't do so in another. It's standard practice not only for him, but for other spokespersons for the CJC and B'nai Brith, to falsely accuse Nazi victims of being "Nazi war criminals" while defending an "absolutely kosher" (Farber's own words) process which allows the state to prosecute these people (even if they are in advanced stages of Alzheimer's Disease as are two out of the six victims) without the need to provide one iota of evidence that they committed any criminal act whatsoever.

It is unfortunate that the CJC co-opted Armenian, Rwandan and Roma organizations for their own private vendetta because these ethnocultural groups, which have suffered very serious crimes against humanity that need to be brought to public awareness, will only find them buried by the wayside as long as they allow themselves to be blindsided by the CJC and its anti-Ukrainian witch hunt. It is significant that the Darfur Association of Canada, having been informed earlier by representatives of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress of what the real purpose of this press conference was, did not attend.

In fact, as far as achieving its objectives were concerned, this press conference failed miserably. It wasn't carried by any television or radio station, nor any hard-copy newspaper. The only report which appeared was on the Globe and Mail's internet site. In that one, reporter Gloria Galloway hit the nail on the head with her opening paragraph: "The men are in their 80s and 90s, and none has been convicted of war crimes, but Jewish groups and other ethnic communities that have been subjected to violent persecution want them deported as Nazi 'enablers'." That story got a tremendous reader response on the Globe's website, almost all of the comments critical of the CJC.

For one thing, this attempt to put pressure upon the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to revoke the citizenship of the elderly Ukrainians is futile because the Federal Appeals Court, in ordering the reinstatement of Oberlander's citizenship told cabinet "it cannot apply the war criminals policy to a person unless it first satisfies itself, to use the very words of the policy, that 'there is evidence of direct involvement in or complicity of war crimes or crimes against humanity." Since that decision was not appealed within the proscribed time frame, it stands as law. Even if the government wanted to revoke the citizenship of these individuals, which it doesn't, it cannot do so. Therefore all the energy spent on this useless exercise is wasted.

What this campaign has accomplished, however, is prevented the government from enacting any serious reform of an antiquated Citizenship Act which is rife with so many obscurities and anomalies that horror stories keep coming out on a daily basis – people whose citizenship is no longer valid because they lived outside Canada on their 24th birthday and failed to sign the right form, they were Canadian-born and Canadian citizens, but got their citizenship taken away when their father took out citizenship in another country, they are war brides from WWII or their children, they are children born out of wedlock to foreign fathers and so on. And this doesn't even include the 6 million naturalized Canadians who become second-class citizens under this "absolutely kosher" revocation process.

The government should not let this private vendetta stand in the way of some very necessary reform. And responsible leaders within the Canadian Jewish community should start to question what is accomplished when a small group of individuals acting in their collective name, continue with a pointless exercise that serves no constructive purpose, but succeeds in poisoning relations with other ethnocultural groups.

Why wasn't monument insured, or 'resettled'?

Letter to the Editor

Re: Shevchenko Monument Heist

Thank you Ukrainian News for informing the community of this tragic event for all Ukrainians, no matter where they reside. But, certain questions and comments come to mind. As I understand from various reliable sources, this Taras Shevchenko monument in Oakville (sculptors M. Vronskiy and O. Oliynik), a first in the Americas, was a gift from the people of Soviet Ukraine to Ukrainians living in Canada in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada in 1951. Therefore, regardless of differences at that time in the Ukrainian Canadian community, I believe, that the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation were only custodians of the gifted Shevchenko monument for the entire Ukrainian Canadian community. (See inscription on the granite base of the monument.)

In 1952 a Taras Shevchenko Museum was opened, next to the monument, with numerous original, unique art copies and exhibits presented gratis from the National Taras Shevchenko Museum in Kyiv (see the archival collection Na Skryzhalykh Istoriyi). The museum was torched by arsonists in 1988. The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians and the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation appealed for financial donations from membership, supporters, readers of their publication, and the community at large to rebuild a contemporary museum at this same location. The overall cost of the projected museum, as presented at an AUUC National Convention in Toronto, was over $3 million. A museum curator was also groomed for the position. (See reports in Ukrainian-Canadian Herald).

In 2001 a smaller bronze statue of Taras Shevchenko (by sculptor, ethnographer, folklore historian Ivan Honchar) seated at the entrance to the park disappeared. A $10,000 Reward was offered some time after the disappearance, bringing no results.

January 1, 2007 we learn from the national media that the original 5-metre Taras Shevchenko bronze monument disappeared from an isolated field in Oakville. It would be interesting to know if the 'custodians' offered a reward immediately after the disappearance of the monument, and for how much? Perhaps the monument could have been recovered. We understand from the media that the head was salvaged. Was there a surveillance system on the monument? Why wasn't it insured by any of numerous insurance companies in Canada?

Belonging to the Ukrainian Canadian community, Taras Shevchenko is sacred to all of us as our Kobzar (Bard). We would like to know why this happened and could it have been prevented? We are aware that several community organizations/churches wanted to 'resettle' Shevchenko (London, Oakville, Ottawa, Toronto, Edmonton) but without any success. Donations were made to the monument and museum not only by the Ukrainian Canadian community, but by our multi-ethnic Canadian community. Has there ever been a public accountability for the insurance, donations, finances received, estates, etc.?

According to discussions at several AUUC National Conventions, the 16.2 acres of property with the Shevchenko monument in Oakville remain unsettled. There was talk for the last four-odd years of transferring the monument and park area to the City of Oakville. Perhaps, had action been taken earlier, the monument could have remained intact.

Archival documentation published in Kyiv in 2003 in the collection Na Skryzhalyakh Istoriyi, Facts of History, Archival Documents on Relations Between Ukraine and the Ukrainian-Canadian Community, Late1940's – 1980's by the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Institute of History, Alberta Ukrainian Heritage Foundation, and others, states that in 1948 it was Mykyta Khrushchev, then first secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party (Bolsheviks) of Ukraine who requested and received permission from Joseph Stalin, secretary general of the central committee of the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks), to present this monument as a gift to Ukrainian Canadians. In 1951 over 45,000 attended the unveiling ceremonies; in 2006 the monument was left abandoned in the 'park'. A Burlington Ontario scrap-iron recycler reported that he purchased parts of the monument, including the bronze Shevchenko head on December 12 from two men. Police state the monument was discovered missing on Dec.30, 2006. (The Toronto Star)

* * *

If you should ever want to see the Oakville Shevchenko bronze monument by sculptors M. Vronskiy and O. Oliynik, you will have to visit Ukraine, as an exact replica majestically stands in downtown Donetsk, capital of the Donbas.

In North America we now only have a Taras Shevchenko monument remaining in Winnipeg and in Washington D.C., not taking into account Ukraine and numerous other countries.

Marko Ishchuk, Edmonton.

Archbishop Yurij did not officiate at wedding

UOCC also denies discussions with Moscow Patriarchate on appointment of Canadian bishops

From the Office of the Consistory.of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

Clarification.

We wish to counsel the members of our Church to be very cautious regarding the veracity of certain statements recently disseminated through the news media.

During this past month there have been two specific instances when incorrect information has been published.

In the first instance, it was reported by "E-Poshta", "Ukrainian News" and in Maclean's magazine that His Eminence, Archbishop Yurij "officiated" at the marriage of Boris Wrzesnewsky and Lena Fedko which took place in St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Toronto. This is not correct. His Eminence was an invited guest to the wedding, was attired appropriately in his riassa, klobuk and panahia, and was seated in a place of honour during the ceremony. After the completion of the service His Eminence simply extended congratulations to the newlyweds and their parents.

*(**ED. Note:** Ukrainian News was misinformed and apologizes for the above error. For the record, we were not one of the publications who printed the claims cited below, but are publishing the rest of the Consistory's clarification in the interests of public knowledge.)*

The second example consists of false and mistaken claims which have been published in print and electronic form to the effect that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada has had dialogue "with the UOC-MP on the subject of appointing bishops for the Church in Canada." No member of the Hierarchy or Consistory of the UOCC has ever proposed that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate appoint bishops for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, nor have any discussions to this effect – whether internal or external — ever taken place. This totally fictitious assertion is so ridiculous as to border on the surreal.

Furthermore, in response to such absurd fabrications, a private individual who is not Orthodox and has never been a member of the UOCC has publicly stated that the "Consistory of the UOCC" works in "secret and conspiratorial" ways. This libelous statement is also untrue.

We caution our faithful, as well as all those who are interested in truth, not to believe everything they read in the press, and in cases of doubt to contact the consistory office for clarification.

In Christ the Lord,
Fr. Bohdan Hladio, Chair
Presidium of the Consistory,
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

Yushchenko, Yanukovych battle for control of security services

By Taras Kuzio

(Jamestown Foundation)—Last month the head of Ukraine's parliamentary committee on national security and defense, Anatoliy Kinakh, accused the general prosecutor's office, the Security Service (SBU), and law enforcement of beginning to act on the basis of political orders. Kinakh's concern was related to the tug of war and institutional conflict in Ukraine during its constitutional crisis, which is now spilling over into the field of civil-military relations.

Kinakh, head of the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (PPPU), defected from the Leonid Kuchma camp to Viktor Yushchenko during the second round of the 2004 presidential elections after he himself obtained 1.98% in the first round of voting. In the 2006 elections the PPPU joined the Our Ukraine bloc, thereby strengthening the business component that preferred a coalition with the Party of Regions to one with the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc.

President Yushchenko has been unsuccessful in his attempts to place the security forces under democratic control. Under the reformed constitution, the president controls the appointments of the SBU chairman, prosecutor general, National Security and Defense Council (NRBO) secretary, and foreign and defense ministers.

Surprisingly, the first two positions have been given to individuals who turned out to be not fully loyal to the president or, in the case of Svyatoslav Piskun (December 2004-October 2005), only there to defend the granting of immunity to Kuchma and other high ranking officials. Foreign Minister Tarasyuk was unconstitutionally dismissed in December and the NRBO was given to the head of the Industrial Union of Donbas, who has little experience in international affairs. President Yushchenko lost control over the Interior Ministry (MVS) when his candidate, Yuriy Lutsenko, was removed after Our Ukraine went into opposition to the Anti-Crisis coalition.

The SBU never fully came under Yushchenko's control after he took office in January 2005. The SBU's high involvement in corruption and its links to local political and business elites undoubtedly prevented this smooth transition to the Orange administration.

The presidential secretariat has understood the importance of reforming the SBU yet been unable to put forward a concrete strategy. Parliament's ruling coalition is also proving to be obstructive to reforms. Yushchenko has called for the creation of a "National Commission on Reforming the SBU".

In an attempt to place loyal cadres in the senior ranks of the SBU, Yushchenko appointed Hennadiy Moskal as its deputy head on Jan. 9. This is Moskal's fourth position in less than two years, during which he has moved from governor of Luhansk and Trans-Carpathia, to deputy head of the MVS, and most recently the president's representative in the Crimea.

The biggest blows to Yushchenko's authority have come in the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the government, and the MVS, where personnel changes have been approved that threaten the democratic gains of the Orange Revolution. Nestor Shufrych, a leading member of the Social Democratic Party-United (SDPUo), whose reputation is stained by corruption, election fraud, and the use of antagonistic rhetoric against his opponents, was appointed minister of emergency situations. Shufrych was brought back from the political wilderness as a Crimean Supreme Soviet deputy after the SDPUo failed to enter the current parliament.

Previously SBU chairman, MVS head, and NRBO secretary, Volodymyr Radchenko was appointed deputy prime minister on Jan. 12 after five months as Prime Minister Yanukovych's adviser. Radchenko told parliament that he would assist in coordinating the security forces, a step that would bring him into conflict with the NRBO, which has the same function at the president's behest.

Radchenko's background was in the Soviet KGB, which he joined in 1972 at a time of widespread arrests of Ukrainian dissidents and purges of cultural elites following the dismissal of Communist Party of Ukraine secretary Petro Shelest. Former dissident Volodymyr Malynkovych described Radchenko as somebody who "repressed dissidents, those who fought for human rights, democracy, and Ukraine's freedom".

The Socialist Party (SPU) in the governing coalition agreed to support the removal of Lutsenko as MVS head only if it obtained this ministry. Lutsenko was a long time SPU member until his resignation from the party in protest of its defection from the Orange camp to Yanukovych.

MVS head Vasyl Tsushko has installed new deputies who have poor reputations from the Kuchma era while also demanding that regional MVS chiefs with Orange sympathies be transferred to other duties. These include Mykola Plekhanov who, as head of the Sumy oblast MVS, sent police units against students marching on Kyiv in summer 2004, and Vasyl Marmazov from the Communist Party.

The most criticized appointment as deputy head of the MVS and head of the MVS General Staff has been that of Serhiy Popkov, who was commander of MVS Internal Troops from November 2004-February 2005.

On Nov. 28, 2004, Popkov, on the instructions of then-president Kuchma, Prime Minister Yanukovych and MVS Minister Mykola Bilokin (who remains in exile in Russia after fleeing criminal charges) dispatched MVS troops with live ammunition to central Kyiv to suppress the Orange Revolution. MVS troops only returned to their barracks after high-level diplomatic intervention from the United States, encountering blocked roads leading into Kyiv, and open support given to the protestors by military ground forces.

In a rare display of unity the Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine, and Yushchenko protested the return of Popkov to the MVS. Parliamentary speaker Moroz warned that public opinion should have been taken into account when making this decision.

Prime Minister Yanukovych meanwhile, described Popkov as "an expert of the highest kind who commands great respect." Yanukovych continued, "There was never any infringements on his part throughout his entire career during which he worked in a qualitative manner".

Parties seek amendments to constitution

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine's major political parties seek to prepare amendments to the constitution to resolve the escalating constitutional crisis, but the consensus between the groups may be hard to reach.

President Viktor Yushchenko has been seeking to amend the constitution to strengthen presidential powers that had been eroded by amendments a year ago.

Former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on Feb. 3 called for new amendments that would strengthen parliamentary-presidential system, while the Communist Party, a member of the government coalition, will push for the amendments that cancel the post of the president.

The developments come amid growing tensions between Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, who has been pushing hard to reduce the powers of the president.

The government coalition approved the controversial law on the Cabinet of Minister that reduces powers of the president, but Yushchenko had indicated the law was illegitimate. Yushchenko vowed to appeal the law in the constitutional court.

The standoff leads to the constitutional crisis when the prime minister and the president may claim the same powers, such as appointment of foreign and defense ministers.

"This disorder with sharing power will end only when political figures have enough wisdom to approve the new constitution," Tymoshenko said in an interview with Inter television.

"In order to find understanding we have to move towards the parliamentary-presidential system," Tymoshenko said.

Meanwhile, any successful approval of the amendments requires support from at least 300 lawmakers in the 450-seat Parliament. This means that cooperation between two biggest groups, Yanukovych's Regions Party and the Tymoshenko group, is probably needed, analysts said.

Both groups have already cooperated recently by voting for the controversial law on the Cabinet of Ministers.

Deputy Prime Minister Andriy Kliuyev, a senior member of the Regions Party, on Feb. 3 called on opposition lawmakers to cooperate with the Regions Party to modernize the political system.

"We have to talk, we have to work on a number of legislative acts," Kliuyev said in an interview with Liberty Radio.

"Today, the Regions Party is in the government, while the Tymoshenko group is in opposition. It may happen that after next election, the Regions Party will be in opposition and the Tymoshenko bloc in the government. It may happen that there would be a two-party system."

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Member of Parliament
Edmonton East

Rebalancing the Scales of Justice

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Criminals accused of serious crimes involving guns have found it far too easy to get out on bail. The government's bail reform package will change this. Those charged with serious crimes involving guns will now have to demonstrate to the courts why they should not stay in jail until their trial.

The government tabled legislation that will impose stricter conditions on repeat offenders in order to keep them from offending again. Offenders convicted of a third violent or sexual offence will now have to prove that they should not be declared dangerous offenders. Those who fail to do so will be subject to an indeterminate jail sentence, with no eligibility for parole for seven years.

Both of these Bills free the courts from having to prove that a criminal should be treated more severely. Instead, the onus is now on criminals to prove why they should receive more lenient treatment.

The government is also making other changes to toughen up Canada's justice system. For example, it will increase the mandatory minimum penalties for gun crimes, ban house arrest for serious offences, raise the age of protection to protect young Canadians from sexual predators, and crack down on street racing.

The bottom line? This government is taking decisive action that will rebalance the scales of justice in favour of the safety of hardworking, law-abiding Canadians like you.

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PHOTO — ROMAN PLANCHUK

Mitred Archpriest and Founding Director Fr. Andriy Chirovsky presents Fr. Andrew T. Onuferko with a Holy Cross on behalf of Bishop Stephen Chmilar.

Fr. Andrew honoured with Holy Cross

By Rosemary O'Hearn

On Jan. 18, the students and staff of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies at Saint Paul University in Ottawa celebrated the Feast of Theophany at St. Onuphrius Church at the Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec. During the evening, Fr. Andrew Onuferko was honoured for his four and a half years as Acting Director at the Sheptytsky Institute.

The presentation began with the Dean of The Faculty of Theology, Normand Bonneau, thanking his "colleague in administration" for his "unflagging commitment to the Institute, Faculty and University." Founding Director and Mitred Archpriest Fr. Andriy Chirovsky represented Bishop Stephen Chmilar and bestowed upon Fr. Andrew the title of Canon of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada and presented him with a Holy Cross decorated with jewels. This token of recognition was for Fr. Andrew's "quiet, humble and prayerful efforts" and for his "dedicated ministry as well as his accomplishments in the academic setting of Saint Paul University and the Sheptytsky Institute."

Fr. Andrew T. Onuferko, who has been the Acting and Executive Director of the Institute since 2002, will take a sabbatical beginning Feb. 1, and is expected to return to the Institute as a member of the teaching staff in January 2008. Fr. Andrew was Founding Director of "Radio Resurrection", based in Belgium, Vice-Rector of the Patriarchal Curia in Lviv and lecturer in Old Testament at the Lviv Theological Academy (Ukrainian Catholic University). He joined the Institute in 1996 as the Assistant Director for Administration, while continuing to teach courses both at Saint Paul University and in Lviv. He holds a doctorate in Biblical Theology from the Pontificia Università Urbaniana in Rome. He will be replaced by Fr. Stephen Wojcichowsky, who will move from Edmonton to Ottawa to take up this position.

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Résumés will be accepted until March 1, 2007.

For further information call Maria or Ed at 424-5496.

PHOTO — EMBASSY OF UKRAINE

Left to Right: Ambassador's spouse Dr. Maryna Hrymych; Ukrainian Canadian Congress President Orysia Sushko; Ambassador Ihor Ostash; Governor General Michaëlle Jean; Evhen Czolij, First Vice-President of the Ukrainian World Congress; Yaroslav Brisiuck, First Secretary for Political Affairs at the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada; Col. Oleksandr Racidlo, Defence Attaché of Ukraine in Canada, and Natalia Bielkina, Economic Counselor of the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada.

Ambassador Ostash presents credentials to Governor General

(Embassy of Ukraine/UCC National/Office of Peter Goldring)— Jan. 30, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to Canada Dr. Ihor Ostash presented his Letters of Credence to Governor-General Michaëlle Jean.

In his speech the Ambassador emphasized that Canada occupies a special place in the heart of every Ukrainian, considering historical and family ties, more than 1 million-strong Ukrainian diaspora, as well as the common values of freedom and democracy. Dr. Ostash thanked Canada for supporting Ukraine, beginning from being the first Western nation that recognized Ukraine's independence, as well as for helping Ukraine cope with the consequences of the Chornobyl nuclear catastrophe, backing our accession to the WTO and NATO. Ambassador emphasized the contribution of the largest group of Canadian observers to the victory of the Orange Revolution.

Ostash expressed his conviction that relations between our nations will continue to develop fruitfully and dynamically, as they should between the countries that aim to build their relations on the basis of Special Partnership. As an example of bilateral cooperation Dr. Ostash informed the Governor-General about the decision of the President of Ukraine Victor Yushchenko to send 10 Ukrainian peacekeepers to Afghanistan.

Dr. Ostash conveyed to the Governor-General the invitation from President Victor Yuschenko to visit Ukraine at Her Excellency's convenience.

The Governor-General congratulated the Ambassador of Ukraine with his new appointment, and, underlining the traditional historical and cultural ties between the two countries, emphasized the immense contribution of the Ukrainian Canadians in the development of Canada.

The ceremony of accreditation of the Ambassador of Ukraine to Canada took place at Rideau Hall and was attended by such honorable guests as Senator Raynell Andreychuk, the Chair of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group and Member of Parliament Peter Goldring, the National President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Orysia Sushko, the First Vice-President of the Ukrainian World Congress Evhen Czolij, representatives of the New Government of Canada, Members of Parliament, representatives of the diplomatic corps, diplomats of the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada and the media.

PHOTO — EMBASSY OF UKRAINE

Ambassador Ihor Ostash, his son Danylo Ostash, and Member of Parliament Peter Goldring, Chair of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group.

"The Ukrainian Canadian Congress welcomes Ambassador Ostash to Canada and looks forward to working together with him in developing the relationship between Canada and Ukraine," said UCC President Orysia Sushko in a statement issued Jan. 31 "We are confident that this relationship will be for the mutual benefit of our two countries and will explore new aspects of our longstanding bonds. UCC will continue to play an important role in this ongoing process."

While in Ottawa, the UCC President had meetings with the local branch of the UCC, with officials from the Canadian International Development Agency and discussed issues of importance to the Ukrainian Canadian community with Joy Smith, Member of Parliament for Kildonan-St. Paul (Manitoba).

"I first met Ambassador Ostash in 2004 in Ukraine during the Orange Revolution when he escorted me into Ukraine's Parliament," said Goldring.

At the time, Goldring was in Ukraine as an election observer for the Nov. 21 Presidential election but then stayed on for ten days to bear witness to the dramatic social and political tensions that unfolded as the Orange Revolution took hold.

Before taking on his current role, Ostash was a Member of Ukraine's Parliament for 11 years, during which time he served on several committees, including Foreign Affairs, of which he was Chairman. He was the Vice President of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for five years.

"As Chair of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group, I look forward to building upon our friendship, working closely with Ambassador Ostash to strengthen the economic and social bonds between Canada and Ukraine," said Goldring.

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PHOTOS — ROMAN PETRIW

Suziria puts on Malanka

(UkrNews)—The Suziria Theatrical Group put on their annual rendition of the traditional Malanka pageant at the Ukrainian New Year's Dance presented by the Ukrainian National Federation and the Ukrainian Women's Organization at the UNF Hall in Edmonton, Jan. 13.

The show was very well received by all assembled.

Artistic Director was Nataliya Grytsiv; Musical operator, Andriy Nykyforuk; Choreography by Bohdanka and Mykola Nykyforuk and Volodya Grytsiv; Accompaniment to songs and carols, Mykola and Andriy Nykyforuk. The main roles were: Hospodar and Hospodynya, Valeriy Semenko and Vira Mychaylyak; Malanka and Vasyl, Volodya Grytsiv and Bohdanka Nykyforuk; Koza, Chortyk and Kit, Ira Grytsiv, Stephan Cybulsky and Mykolka Semenko; Tsyhany: Marianka Sech, Marianka Mykhaylyak and Mykola Nykyforuk; Doctor and Solocha, Roman Mykhaylyak and Nataliya Grytsiv.

Pictured above: 1 row l-r: Ivan Cybulsky, Andriy Nykyforuk, Nataliya Grytsiv; 2 row l - r: Valeriy Semenko, Roman Mykhaylyak, Mykola Nykyforuk, Vira Mykhaylyak, Bohdana Nykyforuk, Svitlana Semenko, Luba Tcisar, Olya Cybulska, Ivan Zinchuk; 3 row l-r: Taras Tymkewych, Yana Vyhowska, Vadym Baklanov, Marianka Mykhaylyak, Marianka Sech, Solomia Tcisar, Larysa Bondar, Roman Petriw and male ensemble "Re minor": Oles, Stepan and Markian Lazurko, Mykola Bilash and Orest Groch.

Pictured in the middle: Volodya Grytsiv.

Premier visits Holy Cross

Cont. from P. 1

rely and call upon your prayers and support."

Holy Cross Parish President Richard Andrusiak said that when the parish received confirmation that the Premier and his wife would attend "we were overwhelmed to say the least."

"This is the first time Holy Cross has had a premier at our church service and we are grateful that you were able to attend."

Master of Ceremonies Don Diduck said that Premier Stelmach's career "reflects the strength and character of the Ukrainian heritage, common role roots and work ethic. His is an unwavering belief in God, spirit demonstrated by his very active involvement in the Ukrainian Catholic faith."

He stressed the significance of the fact that Stelmach is the first Alberta Premier of Ukrainian origin.

"The Ukrainian heritage is a proud one and built on the foundation of hard work and effort of our parents, grandparents and great grandparents who sacrificed so much in order for us to enjoy what we have today. Mr Premier, you truly are a living symbol of all our community has hoped for since the time Ukrainians first came to Canada," he said.

Fr. Don presents Premier Ed and Marie Stelmach with icon.

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Янукович не дасть відставити Мороза

(Українська правда)—Прем'єр-міністр Віктор Янукович виключає можливість відставки голови Верховної Ради Олександра Мороза, яку підтримують фракція "Нашої України" та БЮТ.

Про це він сказав 5 лютого під час засідання урядового комітету з питань правової політики, оборони, міжнародного співробітництва та європейської інтеграції, повідомляє прес-служба Кабміну.

"Я хотів би заспокоїти учасників цього процесу (ініціативи відставки Мороза), що цього ніколи не буде... Коаліція зараз стійка. Тому всі ці спроби будь-кого залякати не будуть сприйматись коаліцією", - заявив прем'єр.

Водночас Янукович прокоментував пропозиції та роботу окремих партій та блоків над новими редакціями Конституції.

"Деякі політичні сили звели Конституцію до рівня фактично передвиборчої технології, завдяки якій вони хочуть знайти додаткові голоси", - сказав прем'єр.

Він висловив переконання, що "подібний підхід до Конституції, перш за все, принижує сам Основний закон".

"Складається таке враження, що деякі політики намагаються підлаштувати країну під себе. Цього не можна допустити. Я вважаю, що партії, які спекулюють на власних ексклюзивних проектах, граються в небезпечну гру", - заявив Янукович.

Прем'єр наголосив, що "Конституція в будь-якій країні світу – священна".

"З нею не можна так поводитись. Якщо йдеться про вдосконалення чи продовження конституційної реформи – цей процес треба проводити в парламенті згідно з українським законодавством", - пояснив він.

"Я вважаю, що ми повинні найближчим часом ініціювати створення такої спеціальної комісії, в яку увійдуть представники всіх гілок влади. Цей процес треба проводити в парламенті, і закінчувати займатись аматорством", - додав Янукович.

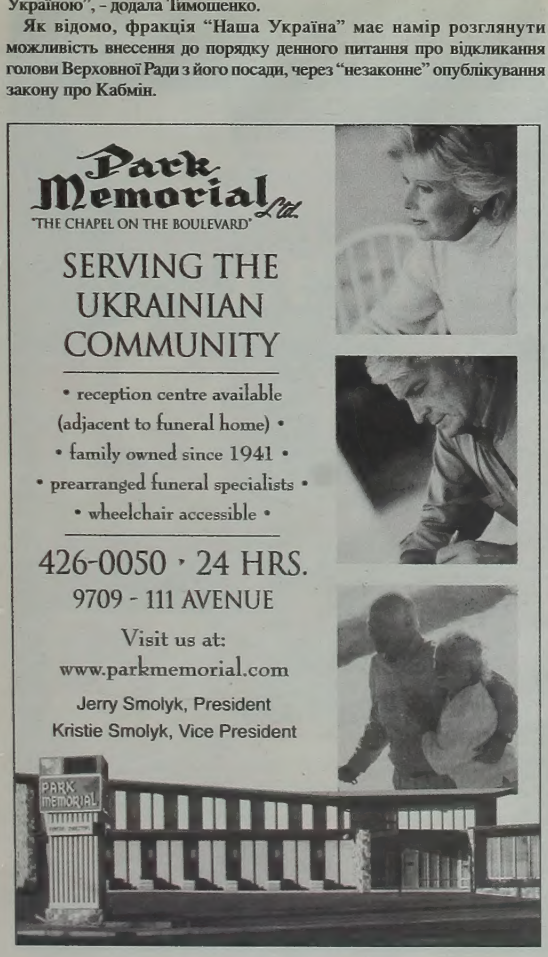
Як відомо, над новими редакціями Конституції працюють БЮТ та Компартія, яка, зокрема, пропонує ліквідувати інститут президентства.

Лідер БЮТ Юлія Тимошенко 2 лютого заявила, що її фракція готова проголосувати за відставку Мороза з посади спікера Верховної Ради. Про це Тимошенко заявила на прес-конференції, коментуючи заяву лідера фракції Наша Україна В'ячеслава Кириленка про те, що його фракція може внести питання про відкликання голови Верховної Ради з його посади.

"Ми з великим задоволенням проголосуємо за відставку Мороза з посади спікера. З повним політичним задоволенням", - зазначила Тимошенко.

"Усім відомо, чому Мороз мусить бути за межами спікерського крісла і за межами взагалі парламентського залу. Тому що Мороз призвів сьогодні практично до реваншу корупційних кланів в Україні. І він за це рано чи пізно буде відповідати і перед історією, і перед Україною", - додала Тимошенко.

Як відомо, фракція "Наша Україна" має намір розглянути можливість внесення до порядку денного питання про відкликання голови Верховної Ради з його посади, через "незаконне" опублікування закону про Кабмін.



Вибух у луганському ресторані: 2 загинули, 14 — у лікарні

Ярослав Гребенюк, *Радіо Свобода*

З лютого в Луганську вибухнув ресторан швидкого харчування «Суп-хауз». Унаслідок вибуху загинули двоє жінок, троє потерпілих у вкрай важкому стані перебувають у реанімації, ще одинадцять, серед них 7-річний хлопчик, госпіталізовані в луганським обласним опіковим центром.

Вибух пролунав серед білого дня. Скляні стіни закладу просто винесло вибуховою хвилею. Пластикові двері відкинуло метрів на 30, вони впали біля зупинки громадського транспорту. У сусідніх будівлях — обласній бібліотеці і готелі «Луганськ» — повилітали вікна.

Попередня причина вибуху — технічні порушення при використанні газу в балонах. Зазвичай балони з газом виносять на вулицю, а у «Суп-Хаузі» вони стояли поряд із пічкою. Від перенагрівання, як кажуть, і стався вибух.

«Вибух був із подальшим горінням, тільки по прибуттю пожежників вогонь загасили. Коли б не спалах, деяких жертв могло б не бути», — сказав начальник відділення МНС у Луганській області підполковник внутрішньої служби Микола Безкоровайний.

Загиблі — дві жінки, котрі працювали в закладі. Ті троє, що наразі перебувають у критичному стані, — також працівники «Суп-Хаузу». За словами лікарів, вони отримали сильні опіки дихальних шляхів, обгоріло близько дев'яноста відсотків шкіри.

Родичів і знайомих не пускають у лікарняні палати, оберігаючи від додаткового стресу. У палати заходять тільки батьки.

У важкому стані й семирічний хлопчик з міста Антрацита. У нього обгоріло обличчя й тіло.

Його мама розповіла, як усе відбулося: «Ми приїхали до Луганська в цирк із Антрацита. А там на 12 годин квитків не виявилось, і ми вирішили почекати до 15-ї. Щоб згаяти час, ми вирішили пообідати і поїхали в центр. Вибрали це кафе. Їли, все нормально. Дитина від нас відійшла, і це все трапилося раптово, швидко, ми навіть нічого не зрозуміли. Нас було троє дорослих і ще одна дитина. У нас лише легкі опіки, а ось мій син потерпів сильно. Зараз він лежить після операції під наркозом. Мене не пускають у палату».

Один із відвідувачів кафе, що потрапили до центру, обійшовся невеликими пораненнями. У Дмитра Вознюка з Луганська обгоріла кисть руки, а також він отримав слабкі опіки шиї. «Я не дуже потерпів. У момент вибуху я був перед касою. У мене опіки невеликі — шиї і руки. Але в палаті зі мною лежать чоловіки з великими опіками рук і обличчя», — розповів Дмитро.

Усі операції проводять безкоштовно. Стало відомо, що власниця «Суп-Хаузу» виплатила кожному з потерпілих компенсацію в 500 гривень. Як повідомив заступник мера Луганська Маноліс Пілавов, представники «Луганськгазу» не підписували дозволів на роботу «Суп-хаузу». Проте власник ресторану оскаржив заборону в суді і виграв процес.

Чиновник також розповів, що вже знайдена компанія, яка заправляла газові балони при мінусовій температурі. Їх занесли у тепле приміщення, і перепад температури спричинив вибух.

Останнім часом схожі аварії відбуваються у Луганську щороку. У жовтні 2004-го вибух газу зруйнував цілий під'їзд п'ятиповерхового будинку. У лютому 2006 року загинуло вісім людей — дві будівлі пошкодило через витік газу.

Прикордонне непорозуміння

Галина Терещук, *Радіо Свобода*

Львів, 26 січня, 2007 — Чотири години польські інспектори протримали автобус із офіційною делегацією зі Львова — як стверджують члени делегації, з вимогою заплатити їм хабара. Львівська міськрада звернулась до дипломатичного представництва Польщі в Україні з прохання з'ясувати цей інцидент.

Випадок трапився біля польського міста Жешув, недалеко від українського кордону. Львівська делегація поверталась до Львова з Вроцлава, де брала участь у мистецькій акції.

Інспектор дорожньої служби затримав автобус і при перевірці документів одного не виявив — плати за проїзд польськими дорогами. За словами керівника делегації, депутата міськради Миколи Гембера, буцімто інспектор вимагав заплатити йому хабар, щось близько 160 доларів, потім збільшив суму, викликав озброєних поліцейських із собакою.

Представники польської поліції, за словами учасників делегації, погрожували конфіскувати автобус і залишити людей на дорозі. Микола Гембер зазначив, що їх протримали на дорозі 4 години: «Плата за дорогу коштувала 12 злотих, по автобану ми платили 13 злотих. Водій пояснював, що ми таки платили за дорогу, але поліцейський вважав по-іншому».

Львівська міськрада звернулась до Міністерства закордонних справ України та Польщі, а також дипломатичних установ з вимогою розслідувати цей випадок. Райці з фракції «Свобода» погрожують заблокувати виїзд через кордон, якщо інспектора не покарають.

Мер Львова особисто зустрівся з генконсулом Польщі у Львові. Веслав Осуховський пообіцяв усе з'ясувати.

Однак він заперечує факт хабара. Адже поліцейський не міг його вимагати, та ще й при колегах, каже консул. У Польщі за таке діють жорсткі покарання, людина залишається без роботи, службової квартири і пенсії.

Щодня у генконсульство Польщі у Львові звертається 3-4 громадяни Польщі зі скаргами на дії українських дайшників, але з таких заяв, каже генкосул, він не робить піару.

Кілька років тому одному знайомому львів'янинові польський інспектор написав лайливе слово в українському паспорті. Українець не розгубився. Виявивши на кордоні такий жарт, він повернувся у Польщу і подав заяву у поліцейський відділок. Історія закінчилась тим, що «жартівник» із Польщі приїхав у Львів і просив вибачення, лиш би львів'янин забрав свою скаргу, щоб він міг залишитись на службі.

Повідомляє «Ґазета виборча»

Єва Поштар, *Радіо Свобода*

Варшава, 26 січня 2007 — В інтернет-випуску щоденника «Ґазета виборча» повідомили в четвер увечері про інцидент, що стався на автошляху до українсько-польського кордону поблизу міста Жешува.

Делегація львівської облради повертала з міста Вроцлава до Львова. На автошляху автобус із львів'янами затримала для контролю польська автоінспекція.

Львів'яни розповіли газеті, що з ними повелись грубо, не дали дзвонити в консульство України, цькували собаками. Вимагали штраф майже 1000 євро. Речник польської автоінспекції повідомив, що делегація Львова не хотіла погодитись на контроль, чинила опір, відмовилася платити штраф.

Депутати львівської ради вважають, що цей інцидент буде мати погані наслідки для українсько-польських відносин. У польське консульство у Львові надіслали офіційну скаргу на поведінку польських правоохоронних органів.

Peter Holloway demonstrates digital Folklore Resources to the teachers in the Ukrainian Bilingual Program of Alberta.

Folklore module for teachers developed by Kule Centre

(Folklore Centre)ÑA number of school districts in Alberta have very active programs in bilingual education. As a large percentage of the population of Alberta is of Ukrainian heritage, the Ukrainian Bilingual Program is very popular and exists in Edmonton Public, Edmonton Catholic, Elk Island Public and Elk Island Catholic School jurisdictions. Natalie Kononenko, Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography, has proposed that resources she had developed on Ukrainian folklore be incorporated into the curriculum as a way of supporting teachers in the delivery of cultural outcomes and exposing the students to the culture of contemporary Ukraine. This suggestion fitted very well into the Program of Studies for Ukrainian Language Arts in Alberta.

Dr. Kononenko's web-site (www.arts.ualberta.ca/uvp/) contains a large amount of information of use to teachers, but there is so much information it can, perhaps, become overwhelming. It was therefore decided to take a small portion of the web-site and generate a "Teaching Module" which Ukrainian teachers could use directly in the classroom. With the help of her husband, Peter W. Holloway, and Svitlana Kukharenko, a graduate student in the Ukrainian Folklore Program at the University of Alberta, a unit based upon a Virtual House on the web-site was generated. In brief, this allows the student to explore a traditional village house in Iavorivka, a village in Ukraine and a modern apartment in Kyiv. In the teaching module, students "travel" from room to room, and have to answer questions (both written and spoken in Ukrainian) about the locations of objects (icons, kylyms, embroideries, the pich etc.) in the house. These questions are significant because the traditional village house is an especially important item of material culture. A house is constructed human space. It is a microcosm of the Ukrainian view of the universe.

Prior to the presentation, several meetings were held, chaired by Melody Kostiuk Consultant, International Languages in the Edmonton Public School system, to refine the module. Dr. Holloway also demonstrated the module at the Intercultural and Second Languages Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association Conference in October, 2006. With the encouraging feedback that was received at these presentations, it was decided to field test the module in the schools, targeting 4th grade students in the Ukrainian bilingual program.

In time for the field test, the entire web-site was translated into Ukrainian by Kukharenko. At the meeting on Jan. 22, Dr. Holloway first demonstrated the English Language and the Ukrainian Language versions of the web-site and then the teachers were allowed "hands-on" exposure to the web-sites and the Teaching Module. During the workshop Dr. Holloway received many useful suggestions from the teachers.

The project is supported by funds from the Ukrainian Pioneers Association of Alberta and the Kule Chair Endowment.

Tensions likely to escalate in Ukraine

(Ukrainian Journal)—The controversial law on the Cabinet of Ministers reducing powers of President Viktor Yushchenko was published on Feb. 2 and will probably escalate tensions between the president and the government.

Yushchenko rejected the law as illegal and pledged to appeal to the Constitutional Court in order to cancel it.

"We hope the Constitutional Court will decide on the matter within one or two months, not years," a spokesman at the Yushchenko's office, said Feb. 1.

The law may give the coalition the power to appoint foreign and defense ministers, the two figures that according to the constitution are supposed to be nominated by the president.

The pro-Russian coalition may use this power to change Ukraine's foreign policy away from pro-Western course towards a closer economic and political cooperation with Russia, analysts said.

Oleksandr Lavrynovych, the justice minister, said now it is the coalition that defines all ministers in the Cabinet, including foreign and defense ministers, while the president "only submits nomination" of these two figures.

"The government coalition suggests all ministers in the government without exception," Lavrynovych said in an interview with Inter late Feb. 1. "The president only nominates the two ministers. But if the president fails to do so, the coalition will nominate them."

The coalition already forced pro-Western Foreign Minister Boris Tarasiuk, an ally of Yushchenko, to quit on Jan. 29, following two months of pressure from Yanukovych. The Finance Ministry suspended funding to the Foreign Ministry to force Tarasiuk to quit.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Anatoliy Hrytsenko, the last remaining pro-Western ally of Yushchenko in the government, is also facing an increased pressure from the pro-Russian coalition.

Hrytsenko said Feb. 1 the government has been financing only a half of the army's originally planned expenditures, which makes the ministry's operation difficult.

"Psychologically it's very difficult," Hrytsenko told Kommersant daily.

Yushchenko challenges law

(RFE/RL)—President Yushchenko told journalists on Feb. 5 that he is appealing to the Constitutional Court to rule that the law on the cabinet enacted the previous week despite his two vetoes is unconstitutional, Interfax-Ukraine reported.

Yushchenko's announcement followed his meeting earlier the same day with Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, parliamentary speaker Oleksandr Moroz, and opposition leader Yuliya Tymoshenko, where he tried to forge a compromise on the controversial cabinet law but apparently failed.

The new law limiting the Ukrainian president's right to appoint key government members came into force Feb. 2.

The legislation limits the president's right to appoint the prime minister, as well as the foreign and defense ministers. It comes into effect without the president's signature.

John and Marie Koziak.

Koziak family foundation donates $200,000 for museum

(UCAMA)—UCAMA takes great pleasure in announcing a major donation of $200,000 in support of the new museum capital fund raising campaign. The directors of the Koziak Family Foundation have chosen to honour their parents John H. and Marie Koziak by sponsoring the Founders' Room at the new facility on Jasper Avenue. The Founders' Room will permanently carry the Koziak name in lasting tribute to their parents' love of Ukrainian culture and their contribution to the development of Edmonton and Alberta.

As a former director of the Ukrainian Canadian Archives & Museum, John H. Koziak demonstrated his strong commitment to the preservation of Ukrainian culture in Canada and the contributions of Ukrainian pioneers in Alberta. Both John and his wife, Marie, freely gave of their time and financial resources to benefit others. They established the John H. and Marie Koziak Family Foundation as one vehicle for their generosity and enlisted their children as directors. Although they were strongly involved with all aspects of Ukrainian culture, John and Marie Koziak were also proud Edmontonians. Both were born in Alberta and often stated "How fortunate we all are that our grandparents emigrated here from Ukraine".

The new museum project of UCAMA promises to be a centre piece for the City of Edmonton as well as a showcase for Ukrainian pioneers in Alberta and Canada. As directors of the John H. and Marie Koziak Family Foundation, the children strongly endorse the museum project

President of UCAMA Khrystyna Kohut praised the generosity and foresight of the Foundation. "Like our forefathers, we have an opportunity to make a lasting contribution to our city and province. It is simply thrilling to see the Koziaks step forward in such a positive manner. Their gift will be a beacon for others to follow."

Additional naming opportunities are still available. Interested parties should direct their inquiries to UCAMA at 780-424-7580 or UCAMA@shaw.ca.

Newsbriefs

BYT to form coalition with OU

(Interfax)—Former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on Feb. 6 said her bloc and the Our Ukraine party have signed an agreement to form a coalition. "I have come to you today after finalizing one extremely important thing. I have united the opposition. We have signed an agreement. I think you will find this news pleasing," Tymoshenko told Ukraine's 1+1 television. The announcement can be regarded as an official statement, she said.

Yushchenko endorses privatization program

(RFE/RL)—President Viktor Yushchenko on Jan. 26 signed into law several bills extending the number of enterprises to be put up for privatization in 2007, including such potentially attractive items as the Kyiv-based Ukrtelekom telecommunications provider and the Odesa Port Plant, which produces fertilizers, Interfax-Ukraine reported. Ukraine's 2007 budget projects revenues from privatization at 10.5 billion hryvnias (US$2.1 billion). In 2006, the state budget received 550 million hryvnias from privatization.

У Тернополі офіційно дозволили "графіті"

(Українська правда)—Влада Тернополя офіційно дозволила малювати "графіті" на залізобетонній конструкції однієї з вулиць міста.

Відповідне рішення прийняв виконавчий комітет Тернопільської міськради, повідомляє "Інтерфакс-Україна" із посиланням на прес-службу міськради.

Як сказано у повідомленні, питання несанкціонованого "графіті" вже давно порушувалося у Тернополі.

Невідомі "художники" самовільно розмальовують стіни будинків. Тому влада міста спробувала вирішити цю проблему, виділивши на вулиці Воїнів дивізії "Галичина" ділянку стіни у вигляді залізобетонних конструкцій довжиною кілька сотень метрів під "графіті".

Однак виконком міськради не обмежився тільки дозволом. Відповідно до його рішення планується створити спеціальну комісію, яка визначить найкращий малюнок на цій конструкції і нагородить переможців.

Наведення порядку з "графіті" є одним із кроків влади міста з поліпшення благоустрою Тернополя, зауважується у повідомленні.

Міськрада також оголосила конкурс "Мій затишний двір" - проєкт благоустрою двору, у якому бажано передбачити облаштованість дитячого майданчика, зон відпочинку, озеленення, паркування для автомобілів.

Участь у конкурсі можуть взяти жителі житлових будинків усіх форм власності, співвласники багатоквартирних будинків, громадські організації, створені в будинках.

Переможцю конкурсу буде надана допомога у проведенні благоустрою, покупці саджанців.

Комуністи хочуть усунути президента новою конституцією

(Українська правда)—Комуністична партія має намір внести до Верховної Ради проект нової Конституції.

Про це заявив лідер Компартії Петро Симоненко під час зустрічі з представниками ЗМІ у рамках Українського прес-клубу 2 лютого, повідомляє прес-служба партії.

"Сьогодні ми, з урахуванням досвіду попередніх десяти років та з огляду на стратегічні пріоритети суспільства і людини, внесли в нашу редакцію Конституції необхідні уточнення та корективи і наступного тижня зареєструємо у Верховній Раді відповідний законопроект", - сказав він.

Як повідомив Симоненко УНІАН, у даному законопроекті планується скасувати інститут президента.

Натомість, пропонується запровадити інститут президії Верховної Ради, яку очолюватиме глава парламенту, а керівником виконавчої влади зробити прем'єр-міністра, якого обиратиме коаліція.

Також, за словами лідера Компартії, замість держадміністрацій всіх рівнів планується запровадити виконкоми і інститут народного контролю.

Крім того, проект закону, передбачає дію імперативного мандату в повному обсязі, а також обрання суддів територіальними громадами, повідомив Симоненко.

Також комуністи пропонують встановити дві державні мови - російську і українську, ввести подвійне громадянство та передбачити нейтральний статус України.

Як відомо, також про підготовку нової редакції Конституції заявляла лідер БЮТ Юлія Тимошенко.

Комуністи натякають Гриценку піти у відставку

(Українська правда)—Комуністична партія вимагає від міністра оборони Анатолія Гриценка представити звіт про результати свого дворічного перебування на посаді міністра.

Про це повідомляє УНІАН із посиланням на прес-службу партії. Компартія відзначає, що "необхідно враховувати, що впродовж півтора років Гриценко перебував саме у складі "помаранчевих" урядів за цілковитого заступництва з боку верховного головнокомандуючого – президента Ющенка".

"А якщо міністр нездатний навести порядок у своєму відомстві, він, за законами офіцерської честі, як це прийнято у тому числі і в середовищі пентагонівських вихованців, повинен подати у відставку", - йдеться у заяві партії.

КПУ наголошує, що після приходу до влади Віктора Ющенка ситуація в армії "не лише не поліпшилась, а й суттєво погіршилась".

"Президент Ющенко спільно зі своєю "помаранчевою" командою взяв рішучий курс на втягування України в НАТО", - зазначається у заяві.

"Отже, основна увага урядів Юлії Тимошенко і Юрія Єханурова, членом яких був і міністр оборони Анатолій Гриценко, зосередилася на проведенні інформаційних кампаній, направлених на пропаганду НАТО серед військовослужбовців, що зажадало залучення для цих цілей значних фінансових ресурсів", - додається в документі.

Також КПУ наголошує про плани, що в майбутньому безпеку України "забезпечуватиме" саме Альянс, а необхідність розвитку власної військової потужності обмежувалася підготовкою декількох боєздатних підрозділів для участі у збройних конфліктах за рубежем.

З Хрещатика зникає життя - історик Олександр Анісімов

Марта Шокало, *Бі-Бі-Сі, Київ*

Київська влада планує провести масштабну реконструкцію Хрещатика.

Зміни торкнуться у першу чергу славнозвісних київських каштанів. Їх збираються викорчувати, а на їхньому місці посадити нові. Але вже не білі, а червоні, бо вони нібито, як кажуть чиновники, краще пристосовані до київського клімату.

Такою ініціативою стурбовані київські старожили, яких бентежить радикальні зміни у центральній частині міста. Тим більше, якщо йдеться про його символи. Білі київські каштани оспівані у піснях і є однією з візитівок міста.

Однак каштани то не єдине, за що критикують владу. За останні кілька років із центру міста, і зокрема із Хрещатика, зникли улюблені усіма магазини: Центральний гастроном, «Тканини», «Мистецтво» і тд.

Про те, як і чому міняється обличчя Києва та на що у майбутньому може перетворитися його головна вулиця Марта Шокало розмовляла з істориком, автором численних книг про Київ Олександром Анісімовим.

Бі-Бі-Сі: Коли і хто посадив у Києві каштани? І як Ви особисто ставитеся до ідеї їх зрубати і посадити нові?

О. Анісімов: Каштани з'явилися після повоєнної реконструкції Хрещатика. Десь у 1952 році кияни вийшли на Хрещатик і висадили там 300 дерев. Тобто, це вже пам'ятка історії. На цій алеї від Бесарабки до Майдану Незалежності, наскільки мені відомо, з того часу загинуло десь 30 дерев, і близько 30 дерев хворіють. Але спилювати всі дерева – це злочин проти історії і проти Хрещатика. А злочинів проти Хрещатика вже дуже багато.

Бі-Бі-Сі: Справді за останні кілька років Хрещатик дуже змінився. Зникло дуже багато улюблених киянами магазинів. Буквально нещодавно закрили відомий магазин "Фарфор-Фаянс", магазин "Взуття". Із старих залишився хіба що ЦУМ та магазин "Знання". Чому з Хрещатика зникає історія?

О. Анісімов: По війні та, власне, і по революції була така традиція: коли Хрещатик формувався як центральна вулиця, то він формувався за рахунок того, яким був попит киян та гостей міста на той момент.

Попит до революції був такий – збудували перший київський театр на сучасній Європейській площі. Потім там з'явився готель. Взагалі на Хрещатику до початку німецької окупації було 19 готелів.

По війні була загальна криза – і продовольча, і промислова. Хрещатик, як і Невський проспект у тодішньому Ленінграді, формували не тільки своє архітектурне обличчя, але й формували мережу магазинів, які були б доступні для людей, і в яких би люди могли купити щось необхідне для себе.

Тому на Хрещатику, за вказівкою, до речі, Хрущова, було відкрито такі принципово важливі для киян магазини, а саме: "Капелюхи", бо тоді на них була мода і необхідність, магазин "Тканини", магазин косметики, власне, "Центральний універмаг", який ще до війни проектувався і був збудований, але війна йому завадила працювати нормально. На Хрещатику була мережа кінотеатрів, книжкові звичайно магазини, тому що попит на книги був дуже великий. Київрада на Хрещатику,

Бі-Бі-Сі: Виходячи із нинішній реалій, що, на вашу думку, мало би бути на Хрещатику?

О. Анісімов: З Хрещатика зникає життя. Це хвороба будь-якого мегаполісу. Там з'являються офіси, там можуть жити тільки дуже заможні люди. Хрещатик перетворюється у такий собі торгівельно-офісний центр, який нікому, окрім тих, хто там торгує і займає офіси, не потрібен. Найближчі двадцять років, я думаю, Хрещатик втратить будь-який нормальний сенс. Це буде місто в місті для певної кількості людей.

Бі-Бі-Сі: Зараз багато говорять про спотворення старої частини Києва новобудовами. Але чи не є це природнім процесом. Адже Київ завжди мінявся. Можливо, колись все, що набудували зараз, теж сприйматиметься як історичні пам'ятки?

О. Анісімов: Київ переживав подібну велику будівельну та архітектурну лихоманку на рубежі 19-20 століття. 1895 по 1914 роки замість одно- двоповерхових обійсть виросли будинки в п'ять, шість, навіть сім поверхів. І це дратувало киян. Вони казали, що зникає київська старовина, і натомість виникають такі потворні ящики. Але з плином часу ми дивимося на ці будинки старої забудови і вважаємо їх архітектурними пам'ятками. Ми не уявляємо Києва без них. Але я хочу сказати, що все ж таки перетворення отого Києва, коли більші ніж 1200 споруд з'явилися менш як за два десятиліття, не псували Києва, були гармонійними. Більше того, деякі вулиці виникли на пустирях: сучасна вулиця Заньковецької, площа Івана Франка, вулиця архітектора Городецького, вулиця Ольгинська.

Інша справа, що коли інвестори не хочуть будувати на пустирях, які знаходяться за межами історичної частини Києва. Натомість вони з корінням виривають те, що там стояло раніше. Деякі з будинків в архітектурному плані красиві, але недоречні у тому чи іншому місці.

Ужгородський замок: реставрація через надзвичайний стан

Надія Петрів, *Радіо Свобода*

Ужгород, 31 січня 2007 — На Закарпатті почали капітальну реставрацію унікальної споруди, архітектурної пам'ятки X століття – Ужгородського замку. За його порятунок взялися лише після того, як у місті оголосили надзвичайний стан. Одна із замкових веж настільки зруйнувалася, що загрожувала впасти на голови ужгородців.

Надзвичайну ситуацію місцевого рівня закарпатські рятувальники оголосили в серпні 2006 року. Саме попід замком проходить міська вулиця. В одному з дворів, що розташовані за 15 метрів від замкових стін, живуть чотири молоді сім'ї. Своїм дітям батьки забороняють ходити на город, бо з мурів сиплеться каміння.

Директор Закарпатського краєзнавчого музею Василь Шеба розповів:

«Жителі нашої вулиці Підградської, в тому числі й ми, працівники музею, чекали кожної хвилини, коли ця махіна величезна — біля 30 тисяч тонн каменю — грохне на вулицю Підградську, де житлові будинки під таким великим уклоном. Переживали ми дуже».

На термінові реставраційні роботи виділили з Державного бюджету 3 мільйони гривень. Роботи видалися складними, бо на територію замку не може заїжджати важка будівельна техніка. З іншого боку, нелегко було розробити технологію, щоб укріпити стіни, які завширшки близько 2 метрів.

Але вже зараз на етапі завершення перший пусковий комплекс, каже голова правління ВАТ «Будівельний комплекс», що виконує будівельні роботи, Євген Олійник: «Виконані передбачені планом роботи, освоєні три мільйони гривень. Виконані повністю всі роботи, які були передбачені, крім того, виконана низка робіт, які були технологічно необхідні: наприклад, влаштування столярки, деякі інші кріплення тощо, тому що технологічно вони пов'язані з існуючим замком і вони мають бути виконані».

Директор музею каже, три століття поспіль замком володіла Мукачівська єпархія, яка суттєво перебудувала його для своїх потреб. У той час були порушені канони замкового будівництва, тому зараз будівельники справді мають чимало клопоту – відновлювати первісний вид замку за фотографіями, картинами, репродукціями. Але воно того варте, вважає ужгородка Андріана: «Не треба забувати те, що Ужгородський замок – це візитна картка нашого міста. Усі гості міста Ужгорода приходять до замку. І як виглядає візитна картка міста – таке буде судження і про громадян міста Ужгорода».

А ще під час реставраційних робіт ремонтники відшукали в підземеллях замку, власне в катівні, потаємний хід. Історики кажуть, ймовірно, він веде до сусіднього Невицького замку, або ж до Мукачівського. Будівельники додають, вони настільки зацікавилися знахідкою, що готові понаднормово працювати над ремонтом ходу, коли будуть усі дозволи.

Batyryn excavations continue

By Volodymyr Mezentsev

(CIUS)—From 1669 to1708, Baturyn, located in Chernihiv province, was the capital of the Cossack Hetman state in central Ukraine. It flourished during the reign of Hetman Ivan Mazepa (1687-1709). In 1708, the town became a military base for Mazepa's campaign against Moscow's domination of Ukraine. In retaliation, Russian troops sent by Tsar Peter I ravaged Baturyn, annihilating its Cossack force of 6-7,000 and killing as many residents. This tragedy has remained in Ukrainian historical memory, but any research of Baturyn was politically taboo until Ukraine became independent.

Excavation of the graves of victims from the 1708 massacre at Baturyn.

In August 2006, the Canada-Ukraine archaeological expedition continued its annual excavations of this town. The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Inc., and the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (PIMS) in Toronto co-sponsor the Baturyn project. Dr. Zenon Kohut, Director of CIUS, is its patron and academic adviser. No funding was received for this year's digs from any sources in Ukraine.

Dr. Volodymyr Kovalenko from the University of Chernihiv leads the Baturyn archaeological expedition. Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev (University of Toronto, CIUS) and Prof. Martin Dimnik (PIMS) participate in this project and the publication of its findings. Some 120 students and scholars from the universities of Kyiv, Chernihiv, Nizhyn, Hlukhiv, and Rivne, the Baturyn Historical Preserve, and the University of Graz (Austria) took part in these excavations.

In 2006, the team conducted aerial photography of the Baturyn terrain to facilitate studies of the historical topography and urban planning of the medieval and modern town. Excavations of the remnants of the citadel's defences showed that they consisted of two dry moats, a rampart with inner timber structures, bastions, and a fence with towers made of oak frameworks filled in with clay. Such traditional Cossack fortifications withstood cannon bombardment better than stone or brick walls.

Within the former fortress, archaeologists discovered a section of the foundations of Baturyn's main cathedral dedicated to the Holy Trinity. The edifice was endowed by Mazepa before 1692 and ruined during the Muscovite attack in 1708. It was probably a spacious, cruciform, centrally planned masonry church with five or seven domes. This design was widespread in the seventeenth-eighteenth centuries in central Ukraine and was derived from wooden folk prototypes.

Researchers resumed their excavations of the palace remnants in the citadel site and graphically restored its architecture and external decorations. It was erected by Hetman Demian Mnohohrishny (1669-72) and burnt to the ground by the Petrine army. The palace represented a relatively large, 25 x 21 m., one-floor brick structure typical of administrative or chancellery offices of the Cossack state and built in the distinctive Cossack Baroque style. A corridor divided this edifice into the larger hetman's private quarter with an audience hall, and a smaller compartment, containing a kitchen and storage rooms.

The expedition continued investigating the footings and wall debris of Mazepa's residence (1700) in the Honcharivka suburb. Recent analysis reveals that this masonry palace (including its appendix) was 20 by 14.5 m. in size and three stories high with a mansard and double-slope roof. Unlike most Ukrainian Baroque civil structures, it had a deep square basement with four rooms and no central corridor or vestibule dividing the interior into two sections. The main facade was articulated by semi-columns of the Corinthian or Composite orders. It is the earliest known secular edifice in central Ukraine constructed and embellished primarily in the Roman Baroque style with some modifications of Vilnius architecture. In the 1670-90s, Western artistic influences reached the Cossack Hetman state via Lithuania.

Initial graphic reconstructions of the Honcharivka palace prepared by archaeologists from Chernihiv erroneously depicted it with a pure Italian Baroque exterior. These ignored important archaeological evidence regarding the application of regional Ukrainian Baroque features, such as the adornment of entablature friezes with multicoloured glazed ceramic rosettes. Thus, Mazepa's villa near his capital is the first example of combined Italian (Roman) and Ukrainian Baroque decorative elements in civil architecture of the Cossack state. The 1708 destruction of Baturyn, however, halted the development of this hybrid palatial style in Ukraine. Excavations of this intriguing building, along with attempts to restore it according to available graphical and archaeological sources, should continue.

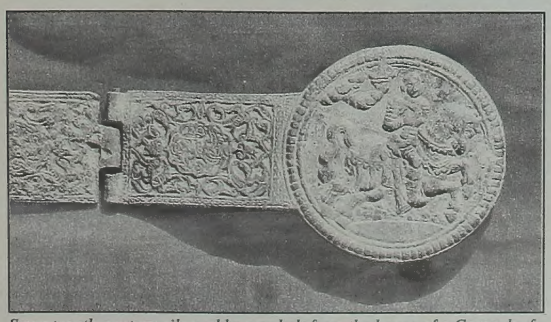
In the settlement adjacent to the fortress, remnants of a sizeable timber dwelling belonging to a wealthy Cossack officer were unearthed. It also perished in the fire of 1708. An ornate seventeenth-century Polish military belt of silvered bronze with a realistic relief of a mounted knight on its clasp as well as a carved bone die and locally produced earthenware with bright polychrome glazing featuring plant and geometric folk motifs were found there.

In the fortress's bailey and suburbs, investigators discovered 13 silver and copper Polish and Russian coins, a silver thaler struck at Basel in 1622, a 1669 lead trade seal from Breslau (Wroc_aw), a bronze finger-ring with an engraved coat of arms, three copper neck crosses, a baton and belt-buckle, a tiny cast vessel or candlestick likely from a church-plate, and an imported ceramic revetment tile with Latin letters of the seventeenth-eighteenth centuries. These finds testify to the economic and cultural vitality of the hetman capital and its extensive commercial relations with Europe.

In 2006, the team excavated 46 graves of the town's inhabitants, dating to the seventeenth-eighteenth, on the grounds of the citadel and fortress. Among them were the remains of 17 children buried in shallow pits without coffins – casualties of the 1708 onslaught. This brought the total number of early modern graves uncovered in Baturyn (1996-2006) to 138. Approximately half of them, at least 65 graves, contained children, women, and elderly people, who were slain by the tsar's army together with the town's military personnel.

Excavations last summer have helped to advance our knowledge of Baturyn's urban planning, lost fortifications, high standard Ukrainian and Western Baroque ecclesiastical and palatine masonry architecture and decorative techniques. They also shed light on native wooden residences of the Cossack elite, international trade, artistic folk ceramics, and the other local crafts. New archaeological evidence has corroborated and supplemented both the oral tradition and historical records on the massive punitive action taken against the hetman capital in 1708.

For more information on the annual excavations at Baturyn, please feel free to contact the author of this report (tel.: 416-766-1408; email: v.mezentsev@utoronto.ca).



Seventeenth-century silvered bronze belt from the house of a Cossack officer. Museum of the Baturyn Historical Preserve.

Visiting scholar finds wealth of archival information on Ukrainians in Canada

By Andrij Makuch

(CIUS)—Dr. Iryna Matiash, a leading archive scholar from Ukraine, visited several Canadian cities beginning October 2006 and returned to Kyiv in December with a considerable amount of information on Ukrainian collections in Canada. Dr. Matiash, a specialist in the history of Ukrainian archival development, is the director of the Ukrainian Research Institute for Archival and Records Studies (Ukrainian acronym: UNDIASD) in Kyiv. She was in Canada as a John Kolasky Memorial Fellow under the auspices of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Iryna Matiash

The materials gathered by the visiting scholar during her research stay will be used toward the compilation of an annotated guide to Ukrainian archival sources in Canada, which is now being prepared and may be published as early as late 2007. In addition, a special issue of the UNDIASD's journal *Pam'iatky*, dedicated to Ukrainian Canadian topics, is being planned for the near future. It will feature contributions from scholars Dr. Matiash met in Canada, former John Kolasky Fellows and source materials from some of the institutions she visited in Canada.

The archive scholar's Canadian sojourn began in Toronto, where she looked at materials at the Ukrainian Research and Documentation Centre (UCRDC), the Archives of Ontario (AO), and the University of Toronto (including the Peter Jacyk Central and East European Resource Centre, the Thomas Fisher Rare Books Library, and the University Archives). In Toronto she paid special attention to the UCRDC's extensive oral history collection, the university's George Luckyj, Arkadii Liubchenko, and Lydia Kaluzhna/Danylo Skoropadsky collections, and the AO's Toronto Ukrainian People's Home and Stephen Rosocha collections. Dr. Matiash also delivered a lecture at the U of T concerning archival development in Ukraine since independence. It was greeted with considerable interest, as the appointment of Olha Ginzberg, a former member of the Verkhovna Rada from the Communist Party of Ukraine, as head of the State Committee of Archives of Ukraine had been announced just a few days earlier.

Following a short stay in Montreal, Dr. Matiash spent about a month in Ottawa, where she was impressed with extent of the Ukrainian holdings housed at Library and Archives Canada (LAC). Here she was assisted by former LAC archivist Myron Momryk in finding various materials. She paid particular attention to the Andrii Zhuk, Mykhailo Yeremiiv, Vasyl Avramenko, Kateryna Antonovych, and Olha Woycenko collections. In Ottawa, she also had a chance to meet with members of the Ukrainian community to discuss archival and related issues as well as to visit the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa.

Dr. Matiash then traveled to Winnipeg, where she looked at materials in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada Consistory archives, the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada archives, and the Mennonite Heritage Centre archives. The archive scholar paid particular attention to the collections at the Ukrainian Cultural and Education Centre (Oseredok), where she focused on the Oleksander Koshetz and Evhen Onatsky fonds, biographical files, the Centre's large photo collection, and materials related to a Second World War memoir-writing competition. Dr. Matiash also found materials in Oseredok related to Volodymyr Sikevych, a former brigadier general in the Army of the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR), who later served as a diplomat for the UNR government-in-exile before settling in Canada. She plans to write a biography of the soldier-diplomat.

Following her stay in Winnipeg, Dr. Matiash went to Edmonton where she continued her perusal of Ukrainian collections at the Provincial Archives of Alberta (paying particular attention to the Petro Savaryn collection), the University of Alberta archives (where she examined the Ivan Lysiak-Rudnytsky papers), the U of A's Ukrainian Folklore Archive, and the Ukrainian Canadian Archives and Museum of Alberta. She also managed to visit the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village and delivered a lecture at the U of A in the CIUS seminar series.

Before departing for Kyiv, Dr. Matiash spent a few days in Toronto where she returned to work in the AO and managed to find the gravesite of General Sikevych. During her stay in Canada she also drafted agreements for cooperation between her institute and both CIUS and UCRDC, and was interviewed in Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa for Ukrainian radio programs.

The planned guide to Ukrainian archival holdings in Canada should prove to be very useful. Although there are some listings posted online for individual institutions and in-house guides on Ukrainian materials at others, a general overall work of this nature has never been compiled.

Before her departure, Dr. Matiash remarked on the extraordinary degree of help and cooperation she received from many people while she was in Canada and expressed her gratitude to them. CIUS would also like to express its thanks for the assistance rendered to our visiting scholar.

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БУДЬМО в КОНТАКТІ!

Sheva's Chelsea closes gap

Sports

By Paul Fletcher, ***BBC Sports***

Frank Lampard's first-half strike ensured Chelsea closed the gap on Manchester United to three points, Feb. 3.

Lampard scored with a long-range strike and was later denied by Scott Carson, who also saved from Didier Drogba and Shaun Wright-Phillips.

Salomon Kalou clipped the post for the Blues, while Michael Ballack and Andriy Shevchenko both headed wide.

Charlton's two best chances fell to Amady Faye, who hit the target each time but could not beat Petr Cech.

The victory was Chelsea's fourth in succession in all competitions — and with John Terry returning from injury as a late substitute, the winter blip seems well and truly over.

Chelsea started superbly — Shevchenko forced a good save with a vicious strike from a tight angle and Ballack missed the target with a header before Lampard struck with 18 minutes gone.

But Charlton rallied late on and Chelsea were hanging on at the end as the home team threw everything forward.

Lampard's goal came after Faye lost possession in midfield.

The ball found its way to Lampard, who shifted to his right to create the opening before shooting beyond Carson.

Wayne Bridge — in for Ashley Cole — delivered a series of telling crosses, one of which was met by Shevchenko, but the Ukrainian could not keep his header on target.

Carson saved a low strike from Drogba as the visiting team threatened to take the game away from Charlton.

But Alan Pardew's side almost equalised when a cross from Talal El Karkouri forced a fingertip save from Cech.

And Charlton finally enjoyed a spell of possession shortly before the break — though it was Lampard who came closest to scoring the next goal with a thunderous free-kick that Carson palmed clear on the stroke of half time.

Charlton brought on Hasselbaink for Dennis Rommedahl at the start of the second half.

But it all seemed very comfortable for Chelsea, who knocked the ball around with ease until the 68th minute, when Charlton finally opened them up.

A clever touch from Bent picked out Faye in space but his strike was athletically tipped over by Cech.

Faye was to have another good chance after getting the wrong side of Makelele but Cech denied him once more.

Chelsea substitute Kalou hit the post and Carson twice saved from Wright-Phillips — but it was Charlton who enjoyed most of the late pressure without conjuring an equaliser.

Jose hails Sheva's "best game"

(UK Sport)—Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho has hailed Andriy Shevchenko's performance in his side's 3-0 victory over Blackburn Rovers, Feb. 1 as his "best game yet".

The Portuguese was pleased with the contribution of his Ukrainian striker – who has endured a torrid time at the hands of pundits and commentators alike since his £30.8 million move from AC Milan in the summer.

Shevchenko has yet to hit double figures for his new club but Mourinho insists that his rating of the striker is not restricted to just looking at the numbers.

"He was fighting for the team and chasing down loose balls," the Chelsea manager said.

"He created chances and [Blackburn goalkeeper Brad] Friedel made some great saves from him.

"Sheva doesn't need to score goals to make me happy."

When asked why he had substituted the striker midway through the second half, Mourinho was adamant that it was a good sign rather than a bad one.

"I took him off because he had a little problem a couple of days before the game," Mourinho added.

"We have another game on Saturday and I need him to rest because he is important for the team."

Andriy Deryzemlya of Ukraine poses with his bronze medal. REUTERS/Alessandro Bianchi (ITALY)

Andriy Deryzemlya wins bronze

(Eurosport/UkrNews)—Andriy Deryzemlya of Ukraine was a surprise winner of the bronze medal at the men's 10 km sprint race competition at the Biathlon World Championship in the northern Italy ski resort of Anterselva, Feb. 3. Deryzemlya, who is only 39th in the World Cup standings, edged out Sweden's Bjorn Ferry, second in the discipline in the World Cup, by nearly nine seconds.

Paralympic team win 9 medals at World Skiing Cup

(Channel 5)—The Ukrainian paralympic team won nine medals — three gold, three silver and three bronze at the World Skiing Cup in Germany and Austria, Jan. 28

A total of 120 athletes representing 17 countries participated.

Ukraine was represented by 7 athletes, including Oleh Munts, Kirovohrad region, Vitaliy Lukyanenko, Sumy region, Serhiy Khyzhniak, Kharkiv region, Oleksandra Konova, Kyiv, Oksana Stefurak, Ivano-Frankivsk region, and Yuliya Batenkova, Volyn region.

Oleksandra Konova, 15, collected 3 golds, 2 silvers and a bronze at the event.

Yanukovych urges prolongation of Odesa-Brody

(RFE/RL)—Viktor Yanukovych said in an interview at the World Economic Forum in Davos on Jan. 25 that he is working to promote the completion of the Odesa-Brody pipeline to carry Caspian oil directly to the European Union, "The Wall Street Journal" reported on Jan. 26. The pipeline, which was originally planned to send Caspian oil to Poland, has carried Russian oil in the opposite direction since 2004. Yanukovych said that the construction of pipeline links from Brody to Poland and Slovakia would bring an additional 12 million tons of oil a year to the EU from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Russia. According to Yanukovych, with the recent row over oil duties with Belarus in mind, Russia is also interested in sending its oil via the Odesa-Brody pipeline to Europe. "We believe Russia will decide quite soon how big their interest will be, in terms of the amount of oil they put in the pipeline," Yanukovych said, adding that Russian oil could be shipped by tankers from Novorossiisk on the Black Sea and fed into the pipeline in Odesa.

Foreign companies lining up for Ukrainian uranium

By Vlad Lavrov, *Kyiv Post, Feb. 1, 2007*

With prices rapidly increasing worldwide and a shortage in supply looming on the horizon, Ukraine's abundant uranium-ore deposits have become a powerful magnet for foreign companies.

However, the country's leadership is not eager to let them in so soon, opting instead to yield monopoly control over the potentially lucrative business to a yet-to-be-established state behemoth, which would need an estimated $2.4 billion in credit to get on its feet.

As the battle to gain control over the mining of Ukrainian uranium, together with its processing into nuclear fuel, continues, experts say development of the business is key to the nation's energy security. Ukraine, which receives about half of its electricity from nuclear power plants, has enough uranium reserves to weed out Russian imports and fill domestic demand for up to 1,000 years.

Just how much uranium Ukraine holds has been kept quiet and subject to state secrecy provisions. But Deputy Energy Minister Yuriy Nedashkovsky has told the Post that this information would be revealed to investors when the time comes.

Nedashkovsky said he constantly receives dozens of offers from Western and Russian companies ready to step in to Ukraine's uranium extraction and processing industry.

"The uranium market is booming, which creates a huge demand for access to Ukrainian uranium reserves," he said.

Nedashkovsky said uranium prices have increased more than eight fold since 2000 from US$23 per kilogram to $180. He expects prices to rise even further to $270 per kilogram by the end of this year.

According to the deputy energy minister, worldwide demand for uranium in 2004 reached nearly 70,000 tons annually. Fresh extraction filled only half of this demand. The rest, he said, was covered by uranium from military reserves, which have been decreasing considerably, thus driving up world prices.

Currently, state-owned VostGOK, which monopolizes uranium extraction and its initial processing in Ukraine, churns out about 800 tons annually, or 30 percent of domestic demand. Ukraine exports all domestically mined uranium, mostly to Germany, at world prices. Domestic demand is filled, according to Nedashkovsky, at prices significantly lower than world prices by Russia's state-owned TVEL.

Ukrainian Energy Minister Yuriy Boyko has said the country hopes to nearly double domestic uranium production by 2009. While Ukrainian officials seem intent on keeping this potentially rewarding business in state hands, foreign companies are stubbornly lining up for a slice of the pie.

Serhiy Koroliov, a representative in Kyiv for France's

Business

Areva NP, a leading supplier of nuclear fuel which also specializes in the construction of nuclear power stations, said that the investment his company could bring to Ukraine has virtually no limit.

"We are currently studying the economic potential of Ukraine's reserves, but it is safe to say that we would bring in hundreds of millions of dollars ... And I don't mean just a couple of hundred [of millions of dollars]," Koroliov said.

The general thinking is that Ukraine needs help in tapping into its uranium potential fast. Ukraine's unwillingness to bring foreign investors in for massive and costly uranium projects is a concern. But media reports suggesting the country might choose its current monopoly supplier, Russia's TVEL, to invest as much as $260 million, do not worry Koroliov.

Vasiliy Konstantinov, vice-president of TVEL, would not comment on the figure. He said that in order to take part in the development of Ukraine's uranium deposits, ownership issues need to be clarified. Konstantinov said he would also expect the Ukrainian government to guarantee such an investment.

In addition to Areva NP and TVEL, Nedashkovsky named Australia's Uran Limited as another interested company. Ukraine's large business groups are also lining up.

"They [Ukraine's big business groups] haven't approached us officially, but I feel them behind my back," he said.

Foreign companies, however, have already submitted proposals. Some are simply seeking rights to extract the uranium. Others are submitting more preferred bids, offering their backing in a joint venture. Giving foreign companies direct access to the uranium reserves won't benefit the state, he explained.

Areva's Koroliov said his company is flexible and would consider various forms of partnership.

But Nedashkovsky said investors will have to wait, at least until the government sets up a state corporation which could, in theory, establish joint ventures with foreign partners.

The new state company is to be called Ukratomprom, Nedashkovsky said, adding that it will be granted monopoly rights over uranium extraction and elements of nuclear fuel production. About $2.4 billion will be required to build up this company and launch basic operations, Nedashkovsky said, adding that the state company will most likely seek credit lines for backing.

The deputy energy minister said uranium mining will be kept in house, adding that foreign interests would only be accepted as partners in producing nuclear fuel if the terms were right.

Finns to launch metal plant near Kyiv

By Olga Gnativ, *Kyiv Post, Feb. 1 2007*

An international maker of metal-based components is going to invest 15 million euros into the launch of a new plant in Ukraine, shoring up its position as a local producer and supplier to the country's booming construction industry.

Finland-based Ruukki Corporation, which already operates three production units in Ukraine, in addition to facilities in Russia, announced its expansion plans during a press conference in Kyiv on Jan. 25. Ruukki executive director Sakari Tamminen told journalists that Eastern Europe is a major area of growth for his company.

"Our sales during 2005-2006 in Eastern Europe grew from 11 percent to 15 percent, while sales in Western Europe dropped from 27 percent to 20," he said. According to Tamminen, Ruukki reached 30-35 million euros in Ukrainian sales revenues last year, a 40-percent rise over 2005.

The new plant, to be located 20 kilometers from Ukraine's capital, will feature 13,000 square meters of work space for the manufacture of mostly roofing products for "the growing commercial and industrial construction market in Ukraine," reads a Jan. 25 press release by the company.

Construction will begin this spring, with production slated to begin a year later. The new plant will employ about 130 skilled metal workers and others, the company said in its press release.

Ruukki's fourth facility in Ukraine is meant to satisfy growing demand. However,
Natalia Pamposchuk, a spokesperson for the company's Kyiv office, said that some of the products from the new plant might be exported.

Ruukki has been on the Ukrainian market for 10 years and currently has two construction production facilities in Kyiv and Dnipropetrovsk, and a color coated coils plant in Antrazit, which it acquired in 2006. The new plant will operate in close cooperation with the Antrazit production as well as with the steel structure manufacturer Ventall, which Ruukki recently acquired in Russia.

Ruukki, a publicly traded company, supplies components to the construction and mechanical engineering sectors, with operations in over 20 countries and 13,000 employees. The company posted 3.7 billion euros in net sales in 2005.

Ukraine, Kazakhstan endorse joint action plan

(RFE/RL)—President Yushchenko and visiting Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbaev signed a Ukraine-Kazakhstan Action Plan for 2007-08 in Kyiv on Feb. 2, Ukrainian media reported.

The document provides for holding a Year of Kazakhstan in Ukraine in 2007 — an event that Nazarbaev officially inaugurated in Kyiv — and a Year of Ukraine in Kazakhstan in 2008.

It also stipulates intensifying bilateral cooperation in the fuel and energy sector, in particular, through the construction of power-engineering facilities, the expansion of oil-pipeline networks, and participation in oil-and-gas development.

Grain rots because of export quotas

(RFE/RL)—Up to 10,000 tons of Ukrainian grain is thrown into the Black Sea every night, Ukrainian Television reported on Jan. 26.

The grain, loaded into elevators at Ukrainian ports last summer to be subsequently exported, stayed there for too long because the government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych introduced grain-export quotas.

The government justified the quotas by saying there would be not enough grain for domestic needs.

Having been stored for six months, the grain reportedly spoiled, germinated, and was attacked by insects.

The volume of unusable grain now amounts to some 270,000 tons.

Farmers say the grain market in Ukraine is saturated with 6 million tons of excess grain, which could be sold abroad for 4 billion hryvnias (US$800 million).

"It is a paradoxical situation that this country has never seen before.

Every night 5,000-10,000 tons of grain are thrown out into the Black Sea, feeding fish.

At the same time, we are looking for funds for the agricultural sector," Ukrainian Television quoted Ukrainian Agrarian Confederation Chairman Leonid Kozachenko as saying.

Ukraine facing 3 problems enroute to WTO, says Yanukovych

(Interfax Ukraine Business Express)—Ukrainian Premier Viktor Yanukovych says Ukraine has yet to settle three questions concerning its accession to the World Trade Organization, which may be resolved in the first half of 2007.

"We see [Ukraine's date of accession to the WTO] in the first half of 2007," Yanukovych told the press in Davos, Switzerland on Jan. 26.

Yanukovych said Kyiv had yet to settle some questions in [1] relations with the United States, [2] the question of subsidies to the country's agriculture sector, and [3] the question of the so-called "Kyrgyz debt."

As for the relations with the United States, there are two questions: [1] imports of meat to Ukraine, and the [2] export of Ukrainian grain.

"We are resolving these two issues," Yanukovych said, adding that Ukraine had taken all of procedural decisions concerning the meat imports in Ukraine and notified Washington of them. The Cabinet of Ministers has also increased quotas on exports of barley and corn.

Commenting on the so-called "Kyrgyz debt," Yanukovych said Kyiv didn't recognize the debt to Kyrgyzstan, as well as such debts to other countries. "Ukraine doesn't have such debts and the issue has nothing to do with accession to the WTO," he said.

He said WTO President Pascual Lamy "heard this" and agreed that the issue could be settled during a meeting of the commission of the WTO on the accession of Ukraine to the organization.

Business Briefs

Ukraine seeks free trade talks

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine will seek to start talks on a free trade agreement with the European Union even before joining the World Trade Organization, Acting Foreign Minister Volodymyr Ohryzko said Feb. 6. Ukraine planned to join the WTO in February, but pro-Russian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych had recently suggested that the accession will probably be postponed until June.

WTO target middle of 2007

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine will probably be able to join the World Trade Organization in the middle of 2007, more than three months later than has been earlier thought, an official said, Jan. 31. "We are expecting the completion of the approval process... In the middle of summer we could receive a final decision," Economy Minister Volodymyr Makukha said.

Poland seeks cooperation

(Ukrainian Journal)—Poland's involvement in extending the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline to the Polish cities of Plock and Gdansk will depend on cooperation between five states including Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine, an official said, Feb 1. Polish Deputy Economy Minister Piotr Naimski said the project requires coordination of five countries in order to succeed.

Ukraine delays Vanco PSA

(Ukrainian Journal)—The government on Jan. 24 delayed for up to three months the signing of production sharing agreement (PSA) with Vanco Energy, an independent U.S. oil company, over oil exploration and development offshore the Black Sea. The delay is a sign that the project may have been facing a hidden opposition from the pro-Russian government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, analysts said.

Heineken eyes Ukraine

(Ukrainian Journal)—A large international brewer, such as Heineken or SABmiller, is likely to arrive on the Ukrainian beer market through acquisition later this year that would boost competition, industry executives said Feb. 6. Petro Chernyshev, director general of the BBH Group, one of the major breweries in Ukraine, said there is a strong interest from international breweries in Ukraine.

UCSS bestows honours

Genocide commemoration a key priority for UCC – APC, keynote speaker says

(UkrNews)—Increasing public awareness of the genocide of the Ukrainian people in 1933 will be one of the chief priorities for the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council in the upcoming years, says its newly-elected president.

"In 2008 it will be 75 years since the Holodomor, or the forced famine, took the lives of at least 7 million Ukrainians. And yet today, this tragic criminal event has not been recognized as Genocide by the international community," said Daria Luciw in delivering the keynote address at the Ukrainian Canadians Social Services (Edmonton) Appreciation Banquet held at St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Centre, Feb. 3.

"The Edmonton and Calgary Branches of KYK have done admirable work to heighten the profile and commemorate the famine annually. But we must quickly start working together to ensure that this event continues to grow; that at these events it is not just members of our Ukrainian community in attendance, but that representatives from the Jewish, Serbian, Polish, Rwandan, German and many other ethnic communities are also there, also laying wreaths and also showing that this is a travesty which must be recognized by the world," she added.

"And in November of 2008 when we are commemorating the Holodomor to a capacity crowd, we will work to have every church bell in this city ringing to capture the attention of all those who did not know, but will learn, that something important is taking place," said Luciw who was one of the four recipients of the Certificates of Appreciation handed out at the event.

Also honoured in this manner were: Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel, Alex Andruchow and Borys Onuferko.

Luciw added that another of UCC – APC's priorities is to broaden its network throughout the province.

"From Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, to Bonnyville and St. Paul, and Grande Prairie and Peace River in the north, and many places in between, there are Ukrainian Clubs, churches and organizations with whom we must connect and develop regular communication. We must promote their work, share ideas and solve problems together. It is the aim of the provincial UCC to broaden our network in this province so that we have a stronger presence in these communities," she said.

A third area in which the council will be directing its efforts is immigration where a great deal of work to be done to ease the process of both obtaining working visas as well as immigrating to this country.

"As a provincial body, we will work at lobbying the provincial government to change or adapt regulations to help those wishing to come from Ukraine to work, learn or live. We will also be working closely with National UCC to lobby the federal government to make those changes necessary to support our efforts. And we will work to ensure that professional associations are changing to recognize credentials of those trained outside of Canada," she said.

Addressing the new immigrants from Ukraine who were introduced during the evening, Luciw said the road to their new life in Canada has been eased considerably by the work of the UCSS.

"Today, in this room, you see a gathering of people who represent over 100 years of immigration to Canada. You see how we work together, together form the necessary programs for our community and together ensure that Ukrainians in Canada have a voice and influence in society and, even more so, stand up and acknowledge that we are Ukrainians," she said in the Ukrainian portion of her bilingual address.

Mayor Mandell encouraged UCSS to increase the number of people immigrating from Ukraine by "adding some zeros" to the number.

He noted that over 6 million Ukrainians work in Western and Eastern Europe and send goods and services back home.

"We think that by coming to Canada to Edmonton, you might send some goods back home, but you will build a life here, with your wife, your children and that's future and that's what it's all about," he said.

Rt. Rev. Fr. Victor Lakusta and Very Rev. William Hupalo, Administrators for the Western Diocese of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and the Edmonton Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada, respectively, commended UCSS for the work in does in helping integrate new Canadians into our community.

UCSS President Bill Diachuk noted that he first became involved with the organization in 1986 and hasn't regretted it since.

He also reminded those present that UCSS accepts used furniture and other goods to help newcomers to the city.

The UCSS Board of Directors consists of: President, Bill Diachuk; Past President, William G. Lesick; 1st Vice President, Edward Piasta; 2nd Vice President, Alex Palamarek; Secretary, Oksana Ensslen; Directors: Ruth Boychuk, Steffie Chmilar, Sylvia Gray, Brenda Griffiths, Terry J. Holubetz, Mike Kobylka, Ihor Kohaykevych, Walter Marych, Yuri G. Moskal, Stefan Sumka and Michael Wygera.

PHOTO — YURI MOSKAL

Left to Right: UCSS President Bill Diachuk; Mayor Mandel; Alex Andruchow, Bingo Volunteer; UCC - APC President Daria Luciw; Boris Onuferko, Bingo Volunteer and Alex Palamarek, UCSS Vice President.